

**Report of the
Commissioners
of the
District of
Columbia**

1923/1924

(Washington, DC)



**REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1924**

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FOR THE YEAR
ENDED JUNE 30
District of Columbia.
Commissioners.
To Report
1924



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 1, 1924

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

The Commissioners of the District of Columbia transmit herewith their report on the transactions of the government of the District of Columbia during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1924, as required by law.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

April 15, 1924, Cuno H. Rudolph and James F. Oyster were re-appointed Commissioners of the District of Columbia for a term of three years.

By order of the War Department, dated August 27, 1924, Maj. William E. R. Covell, of the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army, was detailed as an assistant to the engineer commissioner of the District of Columbia, vice Capt. John E. Wood, of the same corps, and reported for duty on September 13, 1924.

FINANCES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

APPROPRIATIONS

The cash receipts of the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1924, amounted to \$24,468,158.24, made up as follows: Revenue of the District of Columbia from taxes and miscellaneous sources, \$15,337,700.61; amount paid by the United States on account of its proportion of appropriations, \$9,130,457.63.

The collections from taxes on real estate for the fiscal year 1924 amounted to \$9,128,765; collections from taxes on personal property, including taxes on gross earnings and receipts of public utilities, banks, and building associations, and on gross receipts of street railway companies, \$2,690,618.79; and collections from taxes on intangible personal property, \$1,808,174.43. Collections from miscellaneous sources, amounting to \$1,710,142.39, made up the balance of the District's revenue.

The sum of \$345,000 was transferred from the revenues of the District of Columbia to meet the payment of policemen's and firemen's pensions during the fiscal year 1924.

The gross revenue collections of the District for 1924, therefore, amounted to \$15,682,700.61.

The cash expenditures for the fiscal year 1924 from appropriations amounted to \$23,990,489.18, classified as follows:

General government	\$1,227,608.89
Protection of life and property	4,020,566.11
Health and sanitation	2,531,403.53
Highways	2,442,053.94
Charities and corrections	2,827,123.93
Education	7,992,796.25
Recreation	2,442,053.94
Miscellaneous	272,819.17
Public-service enterprise	1,291,327.72

TRUST AND SPECIAL FUNDS

The collections on account of trust and special funds for the fiscal year 1924 amounted to \$3,388,843.78, water revenues representing \$1,225,644.68 of this total; policemen's and firemen's relief fund, \$411,492.83; miscellaneous trust fund deposits, \$1,104,154.69; fund for redemption of real estate from tax sales, \$300,531.77; teachers' retirement fund, \$254,594.85; and the balance being collections for a number of miscellaneous trust and special funds.

The expenditures on account of trust and special funds during the fiscal year 1924 amounted to \$3,316,916.79. Included in this amount were expenditures for the water department, \$1,211,074.27; for the policemen's and firemen's relief fund, \$415,364.34; miscellaneous trust fund deposits, \$1,076,582.43; Washington redemption fund, \$319,726.19; and teachers' retirement fund, \$238,728.69.

CASH BALANCES JUNE 30, 1924

The cash balance to the credit of the general fund of the District of Columbia in the Treasury of the United States on June 30, 1924, amounted to \$9,965,838.16, and to the credit of trust and special funds, \$794,161.94. In addition to these amounts balances as shown in the report of the Auditor of the District of Columbia were held to the credit of the disbursing officer of the District of Columbia with the Treasurer of the United States.

BONDED DEBT

On June 30, 1923, the outstanding 3.65 per cent District of Columbia bonds amounted to \$4,589,250. During the fiscal year 1924 \$979,700 of these bonds were purchased and canceled, leaving the amount of bonds outstanding on June 30, 1924, \$3,609,550. The sinking fund assets amount to \$3,407,505.11, thus making the net indebtedness of the District of Columbia on June 30, 1924, \$202,044.89. The District of Columbia has no other form of indebtedness than that represented by its outstanding 3.65 bonds.

The 50-year period for which the 3.65 bonds were issued, the issue being limited by law to \$15,000,000, expired August 1, 1924. The sinking fund assets, represented entirely by investments in bonds and certificates of the United States, will, with the appropriation of \$300,000 in the District appropriation act for the fiscal year 1925, be sufficient to discharge in full the 3.65 outstanding bonds.

REAL-ESTATE ASSESSMENTS

Assessed value of land, \$354,271,644; assessed value of improvements, \$412,784,911, or a total assessment of real estate in the District of Columbia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, of \$767,056,555. Against this assessment a rate of \$1.20 per hundred dollars was levied, making a tax of \$9,204,678.66.

For the previous year the assessment amounted to \$723,199,268, which, at a rate of \$1.30 per hundred dollars, yielded a tax of \$9,401,590.48.

YEARLY ADDITIONS

The assessment of new buildings amounted to about \$40,218,100 and additions to \$2,510,900, and gas main, conduits, etc., to \$651,800, making a total of \$43,380,800, from which is to be taken property removed or destroyed to the extent of about \$1,158,800, and exempt property amounting to \$2,475,400, leaving a net amount of \$39,746,600.

The law requires that there shall be added to the assessment list each year certain amounts representing the value of structures or additions that have been erected or that are under roof by July 1 of each year. The past year is the most strenuous one in the history of District of Columbia assessments, inasmuch as approximately forty millions of dollars have been added to the assessment roll.

The work has necessitated the inspection of about 10,000 places or pieces of property, and notices have been sent out to each owner regarding the new assessment amounts. Altogether the assessment totals over \$43,000,000, but out of this is to be taken certain amounts for destroyed buildings and for exemptions.

The work began in the field on October 1, 1923, and was continuous, weather permitting, up to the first week of July, 1924. The number of days covered in the field was 155 in 9 months. The amount of mileage shown on the auto was 3,727. The number of apartments of comparatively large size entered on the list is 74; the number of dwellings of brick, 2,498; the number of dwellings of frame, 982. The number of garages was: Brick, 877; frame, 499; and metal, 2,662. In addition to these were numerous repairs or extensions to existing buildings.

PERSONAL TAX ASSESSMENTS

The personal tax levy for the fiscal year 1924 produced in revenue a grand total of \$4,746,234.87, derived from three classes of assessments. First, an amount derived from a levy of \$1.20 per hundred dollars worth on household furniture (above \$1,000 value), merchandise, jewelry, boats, vehicles, horses, etc., or what is commonly known as tangible personal property. Such tax amounted to \$1,168,325.83. Second class, a tax on the gross earnings of banks, trust companies, and public-service corporations to the amount of \$1,678,902.59. Third class, a tax levied on moneys and credits, including moneys loaned and invested, bonds and shares of stock, or what is generally known as intangible personal property tax, the amount of this being \$1,899,006.45.

Personal tax for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924

	Assessment	Tax
Tangible personal property, at \$1.20 per \$100.....	\$97,360,486.50	\$1,168,325.83
Bonding and title companies, at 1½ per cent on their gross receipts.....	1,502,336.00	22,535.04
Building and loan associations, at 2 per cent on their gross earnings.....	2,105,140.00	42,102.80
Incorporated savings banks, at 4 per cent on their gross earnings less interest paid their depositors.....	1,466,820.00	58,672.80
Electric-light companies, at 4 per cent on their gross earnings.....	3,854,295.00	154,171.00
Telephone companies, at 4 per cent on their gross earnings.....	5,125,235.00	205,009.40
Street-railway companies, at 4 per cent on their gross receipts.....	10,312,817.70	412,512.71
Gaslight companies, at 5 per cent on their gross earnings.....	2,848,825.00	142,441.25
Georgetown, Bridge, Dock, Elevator & Railway Co., at 5 per cent on their gross earnings.....	20,155.74	1,007.79
National banks, at 6 per cent on their gross earnings.....	5,407,305.00	324,438.30
Trust companies, at 6 per cent on their gross earnings.....	5,231,845.00	313,910.70
Private bankers, at \$500 per annum.....		2,000.00
Note brokers, at \$100 per annum.....		100.00
Total	135,235,260.94	2,847,228.42
Increase in tangible tax for 1924 over 1923.....		112,311.96
Intangible personal property 1924 at 0.5 of 1 per cent.....	379,801,289.00	1,899,006.45
Increase in intangible tax 1924 over 1923.....		73,611.00

Number of accounts, tangible property only.....	19,441
Number of accounts, intangible property only.....	7,230
Number of accounts having both tangible and intangible property.....	34,484
Total number of accounts, tangible and intangible, 1924.....	61,155

REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT AT FULL VALUE

The biennial assesment of real estate, which will be completed by the three assistant assessors by January 1, 1925, will be open to inspection and review from the first Monday in January to the first Monday in June, 1925, and become effective July 1, 1925. The field work will be pursued by the assistant assessors during the year 1924.

By act of Congress approved June 29, 1922, Public No. 256 (District appropriation act), it is provided, among other things, that "there is levied for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, and 1927 a tax at such rate on the full value, and no less, of all real estate and tangible personal property subject to taxation in the District of Columbia, etc."

In the assessment of property the field work of the assistant assessors on real estate is contained in 52 books, with 200 pages to a book, and the final results, after revision by the board of equalization, and after hearing an action on appeals, are embodied in 20 ledgers, containing about 160,000 accounts. In the assessment of personal property the field work is entered upon 80 notebooks, and the final results, after hearing of appeals, are transferred to 9 ledgers, containing about 60,000 accounts. The mere clerical work of writing names, entering amounts, making multiplications and additions has increased in the last five or six years to a great extent, and the office has been looking for mechanical means for obtaining quick and accurate results. Last year calculating and adding machines were purchased for the office, but it may be necessary to get additional machines in order to accomplish the results desired.

The most pressing need is a change in the time for making returns of personal property, which are now due during the month of July or the 1st day of August. The time is too close to the period of payments in November, and, moreover, occurs during the summer

months, when many persons are out of the city. During the last July an unprecedented number of returns were made, because of great publicity given by local papers. If, however, these returns were made during May, at the time of tax payments, it would give opportunity of reminding the taxpayers of this yearly requirement, and would also enable them to make one visit to the building instead of two, as under the present law.

LICENSE BUREAU

During the past fiscal year there was collected a grand total of \$579,094.59 from the following sources: Miscellaneous licenses, \$168,558.59; motor vehicle tags, \$367,027; operator's permits, \$41,109; duplicate tags, \$1,820; duplicate registration cards, \$337; engineer licenses, \$243. During the same period last year there was collected \$612,855.35, net decrease being \$33,760.76.

The fees charged for motor vehicle tags during the year were based upon the horsepower of the machine. On April 23, 1924, Congress enacted a law providing for a tax on motor vehicle fuels sold within the District of Columbia, and in the law provided for a flat charge for tags of \$1 per year for gasoline-driven vehicles, to be effective January 1, 1925. Special rates were provided for steam and electrically driven vehicles. In the same law provision was made for reciprocity with the State of Maryland. The District of Columbia now has reciprocal relations regarding motor vehicles with all the States.

Tags and operators' permits, 1923-24

	Number	Amount
Tags:		
Automobile—		
District of Columbia owners, at \$3.....	56,828	\$170,484.00
District of Columbia owners, at \$5.....	23,117	115,585.00
District of Columbia owners, at \$10.....	4,925	49,250.00
Nonresident owners, at \$3.....	3,820	11,460.00
Nonresident owners, at \$5.....	1,348	6,740.00
Nonresident owners, at \$10.....	246	2,460.00
Motor cycles—		
District of Columbia owners, at \$2.....	1,826	3,652.00
Nonresident owners, at \$2.....	86	172.00
Dealers—		
District of Columbia owners, at \$6.....	1,179	7,074.00
Nonresidents, at \$6.....	25	150.00
Commercial vehicles—		
District of Columbia.....	9,525	-----
Nonresidents.....	417	-----
Motive power—		
Gasoline.....	92,926	-----
Electric.....	471	-----
Steam.....	63	-----
Free—		
District of Columbia.....	1,370	-----
Nonresident.....	27	-----
Total paid tags.....	93,400	367,027.00
Fees from duplicate tags.....		1,820.00
Fees from duplicate registration cards.....		337.00
Permits:		
District of Columbia, at \$2.....	16,376	32,752.00
Nonresidents, at \$2.....	2,915	5,830.00
Duplicates, at \$0.50.....	5,054	2,527.00
Free—		
District of Columbia.....	136	-----
Nonresidents.....	2	-----
Total paid permits.....	24,345	41,109.00

Tags and operators' permits, 1923-24—Continued

	Number	Amount
Receipts from automobile tags:		
1922-23.....		\$401,711.00
1923-24.....		367,027.00
Total decrease.....		34,684.00
Receipts from operators' permits:		
1922-23.....		42,137.50
1923-24.....		41,109.00
Total decrease.....		1,028.50

Miscellaneous licenses

	Amount	Increase	Decrease	Number
Apothecaris.....	\$1,647.00	\$59.00		280
Auctioneers.....	1,166.68		\$50.02	14
Auctioneer's permits.....	70.00		10.00	14
Automobile storage.....	7,092.76		338.18	137
Billposters.....	96.67	36.67		5
Billiards, pool, etc., and shooting galleries.....	9,331.00		505.00	142
Boarding houses.....	50.00			1
Baths, mediums, etc.....	1,872.95		150.03	82
Cattle dealers.....	66.25		12.50	5
Commission merchants.....	1,113.35		119.99	29
Cigar dealers.....	25,031.00		182.00	2,206
Contractors, building.....	6,852.44		648.20	350
Confectioners.....	1,061.00		536.00	90
Dealers in second-hand personal property.....	10,780.12	79.99		291
Dealers, in markets.....	2,370.06		117.63	490
Dealers in gasoline and kerosene.....	2,951.68	330.85		1,461
Drivers of public vehicles.....	2,360.00	57.00		2,360
Employment agencies.....	887.52	137.52		43
Entertainments.....	3,712.00	1,162.00		259
Fuel hucksters.....	543.50	40.54		140
Florists.....	870.00	213.75		67
Hotels.....	6,237.00		22.17	48
Investment companies (Mat.).....	100.00		50.00	1
Livery stables.....	340.42		116.58	10
Laundries.....	2,585.87	104.17		209
Peddlers.....	1,785.80	35.60		160
Peddlers, Shrine convention.....			70.00	
Peddlers, under police regulations.....	5.50	5.50		11
Public halls.....	8,641.70	658.33		86
Public parks.....	133.34		16.67	3
Public passenger vehicles.....	10,478.00		785.75	1,332
Produce dealers.....	10,197.00		760.00	981
Restaurants.....	20,680.50		1,143.00	1,223
Real estate.....	24,454.98	4,437.96		591
Slot machines.....	236.00		8.00	73
Theaters.....	775.00	75.00		8
Transfer fees.....	206.50		21.50	351
Undertaking establishments.....	1,775.00	2.08		69
	168,558.59	7,435.96	5,663.22	13,622

Increase of \$1,772.74.
Engineer's licenses, \$243.

PURCHASING OFFICE

Through this office are purchased all supplies, stores, materials, and equipment required by the various divisions of the Government of the District of Columbia.

The total expended during the year amounted to \$3,495,758.09, which may be classified generally as follows:

Agricultural supplies.....	\$8,659.03
Automobile supplies.....	28,847.47
Books, school, blank, reference, binding, and binding materials.....	71,898.89

Construction materials used in road, street, and sewer work	\$1,067,949.12
Cows	600.00
Drugs, chemicals, and laboratory supplies	38,492.23
Dry goods, clothing, boots, and shoes	66,854.97
Electrical supplies, including cable and fire-alarm boxes	52,005.63
Fire fighting apparatus and supplies	118,844.74
Flags, revolvers, holsters, insignia, and badges	12,306.00
Food supplies:	
Eggs and milk	26,460.96
Groceries, poultry, meat, and fish	180,765.16
Forage and horseshoeing	158,270.04
Fuel	480,953.29
Furniture, housefurnishings, and office equipment	92,814.48
Hardware, plumbing supplies, paints, oil, and lumber	354,460.49
Heating apparatus, furnaces, ranges, stoves, radiators, boilers, etc	37,974.01
Ice	9,712.45
Laundry service	5,822.63
Lighting service, gas and electric, buildings only	106,897.08
Machinery, engines, pumps, tanks and repairs thereto	99,615.60
Pianos, victrolas, and tuning pianos	3,814.65
Playground, athletic and kindergarten supplies and repairs	24,118.74
Postage	17,938.00
Printing and engraving	45,980.52
Repairs, miscellaneous, including minor to buildings	3,436.22
Saddlery	6,996.33
Stationery	83,690.32
Tags, motor vehicles, dog, wagon	15,972.40
Telegraph and telephone service	29,829.77
Transportation, cars, freight, express and freight	40,681.56
Typewriters and repairs thereto	10,838.56
Vehicles, motor and horse, and repairs thereto	120,870.69
Vegetables and fruit	11,714.66
Miscellaneous	59,671.60
Total	3,495,758.09

Inventory at close of business, June 30, 1924, disclosed the District at that time had stock of construction materials in the various property yards to the value of \$348,632.79.

CADETS AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The District of Columbia is entitled, under Chapter XXII of section 1 of "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919," approved July 9, 1918, and other laws, to four cadetships, in the United States Military Academy. The cadets at present are: William Hamilton Hunter for the term ending June, 1927, and Horace S. Beall, jr., Thomas Joseph Brennan, jr., and Mercer Christie Walter for the term ending in June, 1928.

MIDSHIPMEN AT THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

Under a provision in the act of Congress entitled "An act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, and for other purposes," approved July 11, 1919, three midshipmen from the District of Columbia are in the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. These midshipmen are: Joseph William Ludewig for the term to be completed in June, 1925; and

Joseph Lenoir Bird and Vilhelm Klein Busck for the terms to be completed in June, 1926. In the appropriation for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, the number of midshipmen to be thereafter appointed from the District of Columbia was reduced from five to two.

CORPORATION COUNSEL

In the court of appeals four cases in which the District was a party were decided, one in favor of the District and three adverse. The officer also represented the Board of Education in one case, which was decided adversely. Nine cases are now pending.

In the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, in actions at law, 26 new suits were instituted in which the District was a party. Of the cases disposed of during the fiscal year, 1 was dismissed for failure to prosecute; 1 was abated on account of death of plaintiff; 3 were dismissed by plaintiffs; 5 resulted in favor of the District, in 2 of which appeals are pending; 8 were entered adversely after trial, 5 of which have been appealed; and 1 case was settled and consent judgment entered against the District.

Eighteen new equity suits in which the District was a party were filed in the Supreme Court of the District. Of the cases disposed of, 5 were later dismissed by petitioners; 3 were decided adversely, appeal being noted in 1; and 4 were decided in favor of the District, of which 2 were appealed.

In the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding a district court, 31 condemnation cases were pending at the beginning of the fiscal year and 19 new cases have been filed during the year. Of this number, 17 verdicts of condemnation were finally ratified and confirmed, 6 were discontinued, 1 case was dismissed by the court and appeal noted, and 26 cases are now pending on the docket of the court.

Four habeas corpus cases were filed against the District, and the petitions in all four cases were dismissed.

Six replevin suits were filed against officials of the Metropolitan police department, and the claimants were allowed to recover upon satisfying the court of their ownership of the goods.

In the municipal court, exclusive of actions in replevin, 3 cases were decided in favor of the District; 13 were decided adversely, of which number 12 were for teachers' salaries following the decision of the court of appeals in the case of District of Columbia *v.* Gardner; and 5 were decided adversely by consent.

The corporation counsel represented the District in six administration proceedings and in three lunacy proceedings for appointment of committees.

In lunacy proceedings, in inquiries before a judge and jury, 321 persons were found to be of unsound mind and were committed to the Government Hospital for the Insane; 21 were adjudged of sound mind and were released.

In the juvenile court 2,200 cases were filed, which, with pending cases, involved 4,767 court hearings.

Information to the number of 48,895 were filed against offenders in the police court, and fines and forfeitures aggregating \$345,797.91 were collected.

The general work of the office consisted of the approval of 53 bonds, 309 contracts, 170 tax deeds, 10 right-of-way deeds, and 115 special agreements. Two hundred and thirty formal opinions were rendered. Two hundred and seventy-three reports of accidents and claims for damage were investigated and the reports of the investigations filed for future reference. A great many other opinions were given orally to the heads of departments and officials and a large number of consultations had, of which no record is kept.

Three hundred and eighteen claims for damages to lamp-posts were referred to this office for collection, and the sum of \$4,144.34 was collected on this account.

The inspector of claims of this office conducts the business of the District of Columbia branch of the Employee's Compensation Commission. Two hundred and sixty-three employees were injured and given medical treatment. Of this number 203 also received compensation in the total amount of \$6,396.92. In addition a total of \$3,726.95 was expended for widows, minor children, and doctors' and hospital bills.

A representative from the office presided at all of the hearings before the policemen's and firemen's retiring and relief board and also at the trial board hearings of the police department. A representative participated as counsel at all hearings of the fire department trial board. A representative also served on the District traffic board and another on the committee to revise the building code.

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

There were licensed to write various kinds of insurance in the District of Columbia during the year 391 companies, which was a gain of 28 over the previous year.

The total premiums paid in the District of Columbia during the year 1923 amounted to \$18,974,532.92, and the total losses paid amounted to \$6,303,070.25 and have been divided as follows:

	Premiums received	Losses paid
Life, fraternal, and assessment	\$13,433,925.80	\$4,487,847.71
Fire and marine	3,380,738.94	1,116,461.74
Miscellaneous	2,159,868.18	698,754.80
Total	18,974,532.92	6,303,070.25

The total of these premiums, as compared with the year 1922, shows an increase of \$2,097,606.70, and total losses paid show an increase of \$776,765.01.

Below a comparative statement is given of the fire-insurance premiums received and the losses paid in the District of Columbia for the past 10 years, which is as follows:

	Premiums received	Losses paid	Per- centage
1914	\$675, 479.39	\$549, 657.01	81½
1915	798, 620.32	252, 708.53	31
1916	871, 944.81	348, 684.45	39
1917	988, 277.03	150, 902.44	15½
1918	1, 208, 030.03	231, 140.60	19½
1919	1, 553, 605.85	561, 784.62	36½
1920	1, 860, 474.07	424, 310.19	22½
1921	1, 644, 984.74	589, 198.18	35½
1922	1, 996, 996.79	1, 099, 187.28	55
1923	2, 442, 344.58	819, 799.52	33½
	14, 040, 757.61	5, 027, 372.82	35½

A comparative statement of the premiums received and the losses paid over a period of 10 years shows the loss ratio to the premiums received varies each year. While in 1923 the premiums received amounted to \$2,442,344.58, the losses paid only aggregated \$819,799.52, showing a ratio of 33.5 per cent, which is 21.5 per cent lower than in 1922.

LICENSE FEES AND TAXES COLLECTED IN 1923

The revenues of the department and their sources were as follows:

Licenses for companies, associations, and orders	\$20, 459.53
Licenses for principal agents	13, 044.23
Licenses for solicitors	11, 017.99
Licenses for brokers	2, 641.73
Assignments of licenses	80.75
Miscellaneous revenues	550.25
Total	47, 794.48
Taxes collected	213, 217.07
Grand total	261, 011.55
The revenues in 1922 amounted to	228, 283.94
Increase of 1923 over 1922	32, 727.61

PREMIUMS AND LOSSES

There was paid in the District of Columbia during 1923 as insurance premiums and assessments and for losses as follows: Premiums and assessments, \$18,974,532.92; losses, \$6,303,070.25; while the total amount of insurance written (exclusive of casualty) amounted to \$1,886,170,357.96.

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND SURPLUS

The insurance companies, associations, and orders transacting business in the District of Columbia had at the close of business December 31, 1923, total assets of \$11,121,405,559.73, liabilities of \$9,172,756,036.10, and surplus, including capital of \$1,948,649,523.63.

LICENSES ISSUED

The following licenses were issued during 1923, viz:

Life	60
Life, health, and accident (sec. 653 of Code)	21
Casualty	73

Fraternal	56
Fire and fire and marine	177
Reciprocal	4
Total	391

The above shows an increase of 28 licenses over those issued in 1922.

NEW PROPOSED INSURANCE CODE

Another attempt was made in December last to have the Congress pass a new insurance code for the District of Columbia, but after a new bill had been introduced in the House of Representatives by the Hon. George W. Edmonds, of Pennsylvania, opposition arose in the District Committee over some of the provisions of the proposed law.

The bill, however, was favorably reported, but failed of passage at the first session of the Sixty-eighth Congress. It remains on the calendar for action at the next session of that Congress. This bill is known as H. R. 3689. It is hoped that the bill will be passed and give to the District of Columbia a workable code, something which we do not have at the present time.

NEW FRATERNAL LAW

A fraternal insurance bill has been agreed upon by the National Fraternal Congress of America to be introduced at the next session of the Congress.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The weights and measures law is penal in form, but is, nevertheless, corrective in nature, and the inspection force has devoted much attention to correcting faulty practices in trade. Such work serves to obviate violations of the law and to maintain proper business practices.

There were during the fiscal year 4,764 establishments falling within the purview of the weights and measures law. The department also had registered 1,580 transient vendors of various commodities.

Inspectors made 10,180 official visits to business establishments, ranging from the small merchants to the largest department stores and manufacturing plants. There were also made 1,620 special inspections. The total number of examinations and tests of equipment and devices, including commercial and prescription scales, weights, capacity measures, mechanical fabric measures, linear measures, gasoline pumps, and other instruments was 639,335. Of this number 616,169 were found correct and approved, 1,903 were adjusted, 8,802 were condemned, and 14,374 were confiscated and destroyed in accordance with law.

The high cost of coal for the past several years adds importance to the duty of assuring purchasers the full quantity for which they pay. Deliveries have been reweighed and verified and general supervision has been as effectively performed as possible. The department is not properly equipped, however, to take care of the coal situation. It is without necessary equipment for determining

the accuracy of large scales above a very limited capacity. Much effort has been devoted to the elimination of the practice of selling coal by the bushel. This practice has recently been made unlawful, but it was of such long standing that it has been found difficult to break it up among hundreds of coal peddlers operating in the District during each winter. Sales by the bushel produce a larger profit than if sold by weight. It is not difficult, therefore, for unscrupulous vendors to impose upon purchasers at such sales.

The law regarding the methods of making sales of ice has been observed with greater uniformity than in preceding years. Inspectors have been detailed from time to time to survey conditions in the trade, reweigh deliveries, investigate complaints, and check up on vendors in the absence of complaints. There are hundreds of persons engaged in selling ice at retail, and it has not been possible to apprehend all violators of the law; but aggressive work has been done and much good has been accomplished.

According to the best official estimates on milk consumption there are sold in the District not less than 30,000,000 quarts annually. At prevailing prices very small shortages would soon aggregate a large sum of money. For that reason special attention has been given to testing milk bottles used by distributors of that commodity, and 13,804 short-measure bottles were confiscated and destroyed.

During the year 8,759 packages of merchandise ready for sale were reweighed in stores throughout the District.

The law permits bread to be sold in weights of one-half pound, 1 pound, $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds, or multiples of a pound. So far as the weights are concerned, no serious violations of the bread provision of the law have been discovered. This provision has been enforced without any cost whatever and has been of great benefit to the public.

Many deceptive practices are used in retail sales of fruits and vegetables. If the department had sufficient force to keep one or two inspectors regularly assigned to the work of enforcing the standard-container provision of the law, it is believed that much saving to consumers of the District would result.

The consumption of gasoline for motor purposes in the District is estimated at not less than 40,000,000 gallons annually. An inspector especially skilled in the work is assigned to the duty of making tests of gasoline tanks before being placed in use and at regular intervals thereafter. Those which fail to conform to the legal specifications regarding construction are condemned and their use in the District permanently prohibited. Those which comply with the specifications but which are not properly adjusted are condemned until required adjustments are made. After being approved, owners are required to so maintain them as to deliver accurate measure at all times.

The District now has well-defined specifications regarding the construction of weighing and measuring instruments which may be used for commercial purposes. Prior to the adoption of such specifications much equipment came into use which does not meet present requirements. Equipment of this kind is being eliminated as rapidly as possible. All new equipment must conform to the specifications, and general conditions show improvement over former years.

Of the 20,934 scales tested during the year it was necessary to adjust 8.6 per cent and condemn 7.3 per cent. It has been necessary to institute 94 prosecutions, resulting in fines or forfeitures amounting to \$1,095 in 92 cases. Two cases are still pending in court. In no case prosecuted was a defendant acquitted.

THE DISTRICT MARKETS

The Western Market, at Twenty-first and K Streets NW.; the Eastern Market, at Seventh and C Streets SE.; the Fish Wharf and Market, at Eleventh and Water Streets SW.; and the Farmers' Produce Market, situated on the area surrounded by Tenth, Twelfth, B, and Little B Streets NW., are owned by the District and their operation supervised by this department.

The first two named are inclosed markets, each having inside stands, which are rented to dealers in various commodities, and farmers' retail stands on the outside.

The Fish Wharf and Market is confined almost exclusively to wholesale and retail sales of sea foods. Dealers in this market transact a very large volume of business.

The Farmers' Market is used by a large number of farmers and truckers, and is of great benefit to them as well as to residents of the District who go there to make purchases of farm produce directly from the growers. During the fiscal year covered by this report 56,845 vehicle loads of produce were sold on the market. The revenues received from the markets have been reasonably satisfactory.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The superintendent recommends that legislation be enacted authorizing more rigid regulation of hucksters, peddlers, pushcart men, and other transient vendors than is now permitted by law. He also recommends the enactment of a law requiring the owner or owners of every business operated under a corporate, trade, or fictitious name to register with the proper official of the District the correct name and address of the owner of such business.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The board of education is composed of nine members who shall have been for five years immediately preceding their appointment bona fide residents of the District of Columbia, and three of them shall be women. They are appointed by the judges of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

The commissioners are indebted to the courtesy of the Board of Education for the following synopsis of public-school conditions in the District of Columbia during the fiscal year embraced in this report. There were:

Superintendents of schools.....	1
Assistant superintendents.....	2
Directors of intermediate instruction.....	1
Supervising principals.....	13
Supervisors of manual training.....	1
Directors of primary instruction.....	1
Secretary of board.....	1
Financial clerk.....	1

Clerks.....	12
Stenographers.....	2
Messengers.....	1
Attendance officers.....	11

DAY SCHOOLS

The whole number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of the District of Columbia was: White, 49,711; colored, 22,862; total, 72,573.

The above enrollment for the school year was distributed as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Elementary:			
Kindergarten.....	3,337	1,644	4,981
Grades I-VIII.....	33,623	16,563	50,186
Ungraded.....	1,359	297	1,656
Vocational.....	(1)	259	259
Junior high:			
Grades VII-VIII.....	2,062	694	2,756
Grade IX.....	407	128	535
Senior high: Grades IX-XII.....	8,685	2,957	11,642
Normal: Grades XIII-XIV.....	238	320	558
Total enrollment.....	49,711	22,862	72,573

¹ Enrollment included above in grades.

The total enrollment shows an increase of 1,070, or 1.49 per cent over that of the previous year.

The number of weeks in the school year was 36.

The number of school days was 181.

The day schools were in session 180 days.

Teachers, principals, directors, etc.

WHITE

	Administrative principals, assistant principals, directors, etc. ¹			Teachers and teaching principals			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Elementary:									
Kindergarten.....		1	1		117	117		118	118
Grades I-VIII.....	2	26	28	5	865	870	7	891	898
Supplementary.....					37	37		37	37
Ungraded.....		1	1		39	39		40	40
Vocational.....	2		2	5	4	9	7	4	11
Directors.....	1	5	6				1	5	6
Special teachers.....				24	112	136	24	112	136
Junior high:									
Grades VII-VIII.....				9	67	76	9	67	76
Miscellaneous, elementary.....				7	13	20	7	13	20
Grade IX.....				2	21	23	2	21	23
Principals.....	3	1	4				3	1	4
Senior high:									
Grades IX-XII.....				106	265	371	106	265	371
Principals, etc.....	8	3	11				8	3	11
Normal:									
Grades XIII-XIV.....					15	15		15	15
Principals.....	1	1					1	1	2
	16	38	54	158	1,555	1,713	174	1,593	1,767

¹ Those who devote one-half or more than one-half of their time to supervision are included under the caption above: "Administrative principals, assistant principals, directors, etc."

Teachers, principals, directors, etc.—Continued

COLORED

	Administrative principals, assistant principals, assistant directors, etc. ¹			Teachers and teaching principals			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Elementary:									
Kindergarten.....		1	1		78	78		79	79
Grades I-VIII.....	3	7	10	33	386	419	36	393	429
Supplementary.....					2	2		2	2
Ungraded.....				3	19	22	3	19	22
Vocational.....	1	1	2	7	10	17	8	11	19
Assistant directors.....	1		1				1	6	7
Special teachers.....		6	7	15	57	72	15	57	72
Junior high:									
Grades VII-VIII.....				4	16	20	4	16	20
Miscellaneous, elementary.....				4	9	13	4	9	13
Grade IX.....				1	6	7	1	6	7
Principals.....	1	1	2				1	1	2
Senior high:									
Grades IX-XII.....				61	60	121	61	60	121
Principals, etc.....	2	1	3				2	1	3
Normal:									
Grades XIII-XIV.....				3	9	12	3	9	12
Principals.....	1		1				1		1
Total.....	9	17	26	131	652	783	140	669	809

WHITE AND COLORED

Elementary:									
Kindergarten.....		2	2		195	195		197	197
Grades I-VIII.....	5	33	38	38	1,251	1,289	43	1,284	1,327
Supplementary.....					39	39		39	39
Ungraded.....		1	1	3	58	61	3	59	62
Vocational.....	3	1	4	12	14	26	15	15	30
Directors, etc.....	2	11	13				2	11	13
Special teachers.....				39	169	208	39	169	208
Junior high:									
Grades VII-VIII.....				13	83	96	13	83	96
Miscellaneous, elementary.....				11	22	33	11	22	33
Grade IX.....				3	27	30	3	27	30
Principals.....	4	2	6				4	2	6
Senior high:									
Grades XX-XIV.....				167	325	492	167	325	492
Principals, etc.....	10	4	14				10	4	14
Normal:									
Grades XIII-XIV.....				3	24	27	3	24	27
Principals.....	1	1	2				1	1	2
Total.....	25	55	80	289	2,207	2,496	314	2,262	2,576

¹ Those who devote one-half or more than one-half of their time to supervision are included under the caption above: "Administrative principals, assistant principals, directors, etc."

² Kindergarten director and assistant director are included under the heading "Kindergarten."

Number of librarians: White, 7; colored, 3; total, 10.

Number of clerks: White, 26; colored, 9; total, 35.

Janitorial service, or care of buildings and grounds, 413.

SUMMER OR VACATION SCHOOLS

(From July 1 to August 11, 1923)

There were 4,839 pupils enrolled in the summer or vacation elementary and high schools—white, 3,094; colored, 1,745. See below for Americanization school:

	White	Colored	Total
Elementary:			
Grade VIII-A and below.....	1,527	829	2,356
Grade VIII-B.....	164	35	199
Total.....	1,691	864	2,555
Secondary.....	1,493	881	2,284
Grand total.....	3,094	1,745	4,893

The number of teaching centers was: White, 17; colored, 8. Of these centers, 2 were of high-school grade—white, 1; colored, 1.

MISCELLANEOUS

Other enrollments for the summer or vacation schools were as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
School playgrounds or outdoor instruction.....	486	95	581
Americanization:			
Day.....	217		217
Night.....	257		257
Total.....	960	95	1,055

The number of teachers in charge of summer or vacation schools was as follows: White, 118—9 male, 109 female; colored, 60—16 male, 44 female; total, 178—25 male, 153 female.

SCHOOL GARDENS

The school gardens were conducted during the summer months and throughout the school year. For the year there were 20 teachers employed—white 12, colored 8. All the teachers were female.

NIGHT SCHOOLS

The whole number of pupils enrolled in the night schools was as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Elementary:			
Americanization.....	971		971
Grades.....	627	1,310	1,937
Vocational.....	1,975	828	2,803
Secondary.....	4,327	608	4,935
Total.....	7,900	2,746	10,646

Number of buildings used for night-school purposes: White, 7; colored, 6; total, 13.

There were 190 teachers, including assistant directors, as follows:

	White	Colored	Total
Male.....	151	121	272
Female.....	78	40	118
Total.....	229	161	390

¹ Includes an assistant director.

DEAF, DUMB, AND BLIND

Provision is made for the maintenance and tuition of deaf, dumb, and blind children.

AMERICANIZATION WORK

Americanization work and the instruction of foreigners of all ages, both day and night, was carried on at the Columbia Junior High School building.

COMMUNITY CENTER DEPARTMENT

Civic, educational, recreational and social activities were conducted by this department, under the direction of the board of education, in public school buildings, by the following personnel; Directors, 1; supervisors, 2; teachers, 34; clerks, 1; and other employees, 74.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The number of school buildings used was as follows:

Schools	White	Colored	Total
Elementary:			
Kindergartens.....	(1)	(1)	(1)
Grades I-VIII.....	92	43	135
Special.....	4	1	5
Miscellaneous.....		2	2
Junior high.....	4	2	6
Senior high.....	5	2	7
Normal.....	1	1	2
Total.....	106	51	157

¹ Kindergartens are housed in buildings with the grade schools in general. There is also a kindergarten in each normal school building.

Total number of portable schools..... 76
Total number of rented buildings..... 11

The permanent school buildings contain:

Sittings for pupils..... 67,625
Assembly halls..... 26
Gymnasiums..... 13
Swimming pools..... 2

HYGIENE AND SANITATION

The following were employed to preserve the health of the school children and proper sanitation in the schools:

Chief medical and sanitary inspector..... 1
Dental clinics:
Dental operators..... 8
Dental prophylactic operators..... 4
12
Medical inspectors:
Dentists..... 4
Physicians..... 12
16
Nurses, graduate..... 10

The total amount of money spent for the public schools, including \$1,510,539.79 for buildings and grounds, was \$7,046,171.59.

PLAYGROUNDS

During the year, to a greater extent than last, new playgrounds have replaced the old, and school yards, previously closed, have become new playgrounds, with suitable supervision for the children.

Municipal athletics and playground sports are developing rapidly after years of slow growth. The form of administration which was in operation in the District some time before the present supervisor came into office is unexcelled, and so soon as the playgrounds are equipped with field houses, as was originally intended, so there may be supervised year round activities, the municipal recreation system here will have reached the standard of efficiency desired by its founders. In the Children's Bureau report on playground facilities in the District of Columbia emphasis is placed on the need of field houses, lighting of the grounds, and 12 months supervision, in accord with the original playground plan for the District.

At present playgrounds are open for 12 months, but they are supervised only 10 months. During January and February children need guidance. Year-round supervision in playground service is necessary, since mischief and juvenile delinquency are not peculiar to any one season of the year. Increased opportunity for occupational play and industrial recreation must go hand in hand with the restriction of child labor.

The facilities for active recreation in our public parks and public school yards in addition to those of the municipal department were used very extensively. This has been the most successful year the playground department has experienced. All playgrounds are used to the fullest capacity. Not that the playgrounds are crowded at every hour of every day, as there is always a fluctuation in the number attending, but it does mean that the average attendance taxes every resource of those in charge of the ground, and renders the need of more play fields apparent.

Instruction is given in many kinds of handwork and mass-play games. There is much free play, and quiet games; there are tennis tournaments, tin-can golf, kite tournaments, roller skating contests, quoit pitching, and the athlectic badge test for boys and girls. Track and field events and the marble tournaments on each ground are of great interest.

The aim of the playground department is to provide for the children and youth an opportunity for diversion and for physical improvement. It encourages and promotes beneficent sports and games. Habits of justice, obedience, industry, loyalty, and cooperation are taught. Strict adherence to the rules of the games teach respect for law. Civic pride and a regard for property rights are other valuable outgrowths of the public playgrounds. Each of the playgrounds is supervised by a director, and the larger ones have in addition at times two or three play leaders.

The Rotary Club of Washington contributed \$1,348 to keep open school playgrounds with supervision after school and Saturdays during the fall and spring months.

Through the kindness of Mr. Harry M. Crandall, the playground department received salary for one play leader on each playground

nearest the six Crandall Theaters for the summer months, amounting in all to \$900.

The Catholic University has recognized the worth of this department by giving credits in sociology on a master's degree for certain work done on the playgrounds and under our supervision for the past year.

Special attention has been given to the surfacing, grading, and drainage of the playgrounds, and 250 shade trees have been planted.

In addition to the 25 municipal playgrounds, there were 4 play stations in operation; 33 school yards were open with supervision during the summer vacation, and 8 of the larger school yards were opened with supervision during the fall and spring terms daily after school, Saturdays, and vacation days.

The daily schedule while school is in session is from 11.45 until dusk. On Saturdays and holidays, playgrounds are open from 9 a. m. until 4.30 p. m. and during summer vacation from 9 in the morning until dusk. Visits to the grounds during the year totaled nearly 3,000,000, with 20,000 in average daily attendance.

Three new grounds were opened during the year.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The report of the board of trustees of the free Public Library (with which is included that of the public librarian to the trustees), records many forward steps taken by the library during the past year. Judging by statistics, the people of Washington are coming more and more to appreciate the opportunities offered to them by their Public Library. There were 59,693 registered users of the Public Library and 1,136,222 volumes were loaned for home use, an increase of 92,009 volumes over the previous year. In order to meet demands the trustees in their annual report asked for support for several branches in public-school buildings, larger book funds and a larger staff.

The plan of extending library service through branches and through public-school buildings continues to prove its soundness and every year the wisdom of these methods of distribution is more clearly demonstrated. The southeastern branch completed its first full year with a circulation of 130,675 volumes and is in close cooperation with the schools of the southeast section and with a number in the northeast. The branch satisfies an important educational need in that community and expressions of appreciation have been numerous. The Takoma Park branch records an increase in circulation of 3,184 volumes and the largest juvenile circulation in its history. This branch is likewise making a special effort to reach the children in the community. During the year 97 meetings were held in the branch library by various clubs and societies. All reports point to the fact that the branch library building is becoming an important civic center. The stations and high schools also share in the increase in circulation, but are greatly handicapped by a lack of a special high-school collection and the need for larger duplication of titles, for often the general public and pupils secure all copies of the books required by high schools for supplemental reading.

The Carnegie Corporation gave a second \$100,000 during the year for the Mount Pleasant branch and the building will be completed shortly after January 1, 1925. The citizens of that section, either individually or through their associations, have in many ways expressed their appreciation and the benefit they expect to derive from it. In the appropriation act of 1925 Congress made no provision for this branch and it may be forced to stand idle for several months after its completion. Since Congress by law accepted the gift from the Carnegie Corporation it is hoped that action will be taken to prevent such a situation from arising. The commissioners renew their endorsement of the plan of the board of library trustees and the Board of Education for conducting branch libraries in school buildings as an efficient and economical method of extending the Public Library system.

Larger enrollment at schools and colleges and the increased number of Government clerks taking special university and correspondence courses have heavily taxed the informational and advisory services of the library. Fiction circulation figures have decreased but the quality of books read continues to be of a high grade. Debating material has been in great demand. Students, authors, Bible students, club women and other readers have all found the reference service valuable. Over 9,300 questions were recorded at the desk in the reference room of the central building, of which 681 were telephone calls. In the industrial division a great deal of very practical assistance was given. Juvenile circulation has increased 115 per cent in the last five years, the largest increase being in the schools division. The importance of good reading as a factor in making desirable citizens is unquestioned and larger appropriations are needed so that more children may be reached. The appropriation for binding was also found to be inadequate. Approximately 5,000 volumes of the book collection, representing an investment of \$5,700, were held out of use because no funds were available for rebinding.

The trustees point to the improvement in the salary situation through the operation of the classification act as one of the great achievements of the year. Out of 97 positions, 68 were allocated by the Personnel Classification Board in accordance with the recommendations made by the library trustees. These include not only nearly all positions of junior and intermediate grades, but also, among the more responsible positions, those of the director of children's work, the supervisor of school work, the children's librarian of the central library and the Takoma Park branch librarian. It is expected that the more adequate salaries secured through the operation of the classification act will result in a more stable and contented staff, with resulting higher efficiency.

The trustees and librarian have suggested several changes in the library's organic law in order to make it better correspond to present facts and conditions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Metropolitan police district is coextensive with the District of Columbia and is divided into 12 police precincts, with area in acres and in square miles as follows:

	Area in acres	Area in square miles		Area in acres	Area in square miles
No. 1.....	425	0.6642	No. 8.....	1,249	1.9615
No. 2.....	906	1.4156	No. 9.....	2,565	3.9643
No. 3.....	2,334	3.6468	No. 10.....	3,696	5.775
No. 4.....	1,904	2.975	No. 11.....	11,292	17.6437
No. 5.....	1,468	2.2937	No. 12.....	5,136	8.025
No. 6.....	523	.8187			
No. 7.....	9,459	14.7797	Total.....	40,947	63.8732

These figures are approximate and do not include area of the Potomac River south of Washington Channel and Potomac Park. In this area are approximately 537 miles of streets and roadways, all of which are patrolled by the Metropolitan police force.

STRENGTH OF FORCE

The authorized uniformed force as of June 30, 1924, comprised a total of 968 members, exclusive of the street railway crossing force, and were divided into the following grades:

Major and superintendent.....	1
Assistant superintendents.....	2
Inspectors.....	3
Captains.....	13
Lieutenants.....	21
Sergeants.....	56
Privates:	
Class 3.....	582
Class 2.....	222
Class 1.....	20
Vacancy in grade of private.....	1
Driver-privates:	
Class 2.....	35
Class 1.....	3
Total.....	968

DISCIPLINE

Insistence upon the maintenance of strict discipline and rigid adherence to the rules and regulations laid down for the conduct of the members of the police force resulted in seven being dropped, either during or at the expiration of their probationary terms, for unsatisfactory service, and in the citation of 154 before the Metropolitan police trial board for violation of certain of the rules and regulations. Proper disciplinary action followed in each case.

CHANGES IN THE FORCE

Three members of the force died during the fiscal year 1924, 43 resigned, 29 were removed, and 10 were pensioned.

Among the deaths was that of Private John W. Purcell, which occurred on October 17, 1923, and was the result of a gunshot wound sustained while in the actual performance of his duty.

ACTIVITIES OF THE FORCE

Notwithstanding the varied and complex nature of the duties devolving upon the individual officer, the department as a whole has

displayed unusual activity in the enforcement of the laws and regulations in effect in the District of Columbia, the total number of arrests for the fiscal year having been 72,234, as compared with 66,758 for the previous year, an increase of 5,476, or 8.207 per cent, the great majority of these arrests being for misdemeanors.

The arrests for felonies totaled 3,165, as compared with 2,880 for the preceding year, an increase of 286, or 9.89 per cent, this increase in the number of arrests being attributed to increased efficiency of the force rather than to any unusual increase in crime.

Of the total number arrested, 41,896 were white and 30,338 colored; 64,996 were males and 7,238 females.

Of those arrested, 10,104 were under 21 years of age, and 2,350 of that number were under 17 years of age, a condition worthy of serious attention and constructive effort by proper agencies in some nation-wide movement for the study of juvenile delinquency, its cause, its effect on the body politic, and the remedy for a condition in this respect which can not be classed as otherwise than serious.

As murder is the most serious of all crimes, it is advisable to present complete statistics as to that phase of crime for the period covered by this report.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1924, 29 murders were committed and 28 arrests made. It is with satisfaction that attention is called to the record made by the members of the department in successfully clearing up such murders as were committed and arresting the offenders.

VICE REPRESSION

The department has again displayed its usual activity in the suppression of vice and the enforcement of the various laws relating to gambling, bookmaking, lottery, etc., as will be indicated by the following tabulation with comparative statement for the years 1923 and 1924:

	1924	1923		1924	1923
Arrests for:			Arrests for—Continued.		
Adultery.....	178	199	Violation white slave law.....	17	23
Fornication.....	891	777	Bookmaking, etc.....	32	73
Keeping a bawdy house.....	14	2	Permitting gambling.....	310	272
Keeping a disorderly house.....	194	132	Setting up a gambling table.....	9	5
Pandering.....	6	2	Violation of lottery law.....	1	1
Soliciting prostitution.....	213	196			
Vagrancy.....	203	252		2, 068	1, 934

LIQUOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

The department has been vigilant in the enforcement of the various laws relating to the use of liquor. In each precinct one officer is detailed and charged with the specific duty of the enforcement of these laws, but this condition does not relieve other members of the force from the responsibility of taking adequate action in all cases of such violations coming to their attention, and as an evidence of the energy displayed by the force in the enforcement of these most essential laws and regulations the following tabulation is submitted, showing the number of arrests for violations of the various sections

of the liquor laws, together with description and amount of liquor and other property seized under such laws:

	1923	1924		1923	1924
Arrests, Volstead law:			Liquor seized—Continued.		
Selling liquor.....	1,380	1,406	Cognac (gallons).....	0	5
Illegal possession of liquor.....	1,492	1,829	Cordials (gallons).....	0	75
Transporting liquor.....	967	906	Gin (gallons).....	264	1,083
Manufacturing liquor.....	42	26	Home brew (gallons).....	309	13
Operating a still.....	4	4	Rum (gallons).....	3	11
Illegal possession of still.....	20	3	Whisky (gallons).....	10,318	7,885
Destroying evidence in liquor cases.....	12	28	Alcoholic beverages (no name).....	643	0
Illegal possession of mash.....	5		Pela tonic (gallons).....	0	0
Maintaining a nuisance.....	2	20	Malt (gallons).....	3	0
Conspiracy in liquor traffic.....	25	46	Cider (gallons).....	2,739	1,596
Second offense, bench warrants.....	0	5	Wine (gallons).....	3,625	2,086
Soliciting orders for liquor.....	1	1	Total (gallons).....	18,351	14,354
Total.....	3,950	4,274	Beer (bottles).....	8,146	4,162
Arrests, Sheppard law:			Extract (bottles).....	693	548
Intoxication.....	8,148	9,013	Mash.....	3,718	2,520
Operating vehicle, intoxicated.....	448	547	Still.....	45	26
Drinking in public place.....	223	179	Vehicles seized:		
Total.....	8,819	9,739	Automobiles.....	105	144
Liquor seized:			Bicycles.....	0	3
Alcohol (gallons).....	384	1,571	Boats.....	1	0
Brandy (gallons).....	63	22	Motor cycles.....	0	1
Champagne (gallons).....	0	7	Wagons.....	0	2
			Total.....	106	150

DETECTIVE BUREAU

The detective bureau is charged with the investigation of criminal cases in all parts of the police jurisdiction, and the activities of this bureau for the last fiscal year resulted in a total of 2,330 arrests and in the recovery of property valued at \$314,936.22.

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

It is the function of this bureau to furnish the department with such information as will assist in the prevention and detection of crime, and the identification, apprehension, and conviction of criminals, and in exercising that function the attachés of the bureau are required to:

- (a) Photograph, measure, and fingerprint criminals arrested.
- (b) Visit scenes of crime and inspect the same for fingerprint or other evidence, and when necessary to photograph the scene of any crime.
- (c) Photograph scenes of fatal accidents for coroners' inquests and possible evidence in court.
- (d) Obtain descriptions of, photograph, and, when thought advisable, fingerprint unknown dead persons for the purpose of identification.
- (e) Copy photographs of persons wanted or reported missing.
- (f) Photograph fraudulent checks and other documents for evidence for future reference, and to perform such other duties within the purview of the special character of their work.

This bureau is under the direct supervision of the inspector commanding the detective bureau, which bureau executed the following work during the period covered by this report:

Prisoners photographed, measured, and fingerprinted.....	1, 274
Scenes of crime photographed.....	16
Scenes of accidents photographed.....	4
Unknown dead photographed.....	7
Photographs of criminals copied.....	58
Photographs of missing persons copied.....	6
Fraudulent checks, signatures, etc., photographed.....	18
Miscellaneous subjects photographed.....	182
Scenes of crime inspected for fingerprint evidence.....	227
Number of scenes at which fingerprints were found.....	83
Total photographs made:	
Small size.....	5, 215
Large size.....	148
Photographs from other jurisdictions added to bureau.....	1, 454
Fingerprint records added to bureau.....	3, 055
Identification made by the fingerprints system.....	388
Photographs and fingerprints forwarded to other jurisdictions.....	621
Identification made by the United States bureau.....	12
Identifications made by other bureaus.....	61

BUREAU OF LOST PROPERTY

This bureau is charged with tracing lost and stolen property and the supervision and inspection of establishments of dealers in second-hand personal property. As a result of its activities property of the value of \$17,143 was recovered from the 374 dealers having licenses to conduct business in the District of Columbia.

PHARMACY INSPECTION BUREAU

The officers assigned to this bureau are charged with the enforcement of the antinarcotic law and all laws relating to the practice of pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and massage establishments. This bureau has been very active and during the year made 3,143 official visits, and in addition made 811 investigations of suicides by poison, attempted suicides by poison, accidental poison cases and miscellaneous other matters.

SANITARY OFFICER

The officer assigned to this bureau is charged with the duty of investigating cases of alleged insane persons reported to the department, the preparation of affidavits required by law for the temporary detention of such persons, and the drafting, executing, and filing of petitions for writs of inquiry, and the attendance at court in the hearings of such cases before a judge and jury. During the year just closed 411 patients were admitted to St. Elizabeths Hospital, 325 of whom had been taken into custody by the police and held for mental observation. Of this number, 321 were adjudged insane and committed.

TRAFFIC BUREAU

A brief report of the work of this important subdivision of the police department shows that 25,482 applications were received to operate motor vehicles, of which 19,429 were approved and 6,053 disapproved. Nonresidents numbering 2,560 registered with this bureau and in each case the applicant was furnished with a certificate

of registration as a nonresident. Specific complaints of violations of the traffic regulations numbering 1,092 were received and investigated and proper record made in each case.

During the year there were 103 traffic deaths, the vehicle figuring in such fatal accidents being classified as follows:

Motor vehicles.....	82
Street cars.....	9
Street railways.....	5
Bicycles.....	4
Horse-drawn vehicles.....	3

In these cases the coroner's jury held as follows:

Held for manslaughter.....	25
Accidental deaths.....	59
Carelessness of the deceased.....	12
No inquests.....	2
Killed by automobile (operator unknown).....	4
Total.....	102

HACK INSPECTION SERVICE

During the year 1,332 licenses for the operation of public vehicles were issued and 2,370 applications for drivers' character licenses were received, of which 2,260 were approved and 10 disapproved. During the same period 5 licenses were revoked, 75 complaints were investigated, 23,000 inspections were made of public vehicles, and property to the value of \$1,533.97 left in public vehicles was recovered.

WOMAN'S BUREAU

This bureau performed the following services during the year:

Complaints received and investigated.....	902
Persons in custody interviewed.....	1,747
Cases investigated and adjusted other than house of detention cases.....	594
Total arrests made.....	632

HOUSE OF DETENTION

The house of detention is established and maintained for the detention of children under 17 years of age, and, in the discretion of the commissioners, of girls and women over 17 years of age, arrested on charge of offenses against any law in force in the District of Columbia, held as witnesses or otherwise, and is under the immediate supervision of the officer commanding the Woman's Bureau. During the year 2,792 persons were cared for at this institution, the average daily population being 42, and the average stay 4.67 days. The commitments totaled 13,050 days, and 39,150 meals were served during the year. Nonsectarian religious exercises were conducted each Sunday for the benefit of the inmates.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION

The school of instruction maintained by the department for the instruction of members of the force opened September 1, 1923, and closed June 4, 1924, and during this period 147 members of the force were given the benefit of the course, an average of 21 per class, each term consisting of 30 days of 7 hours each.

CHILD-LABOR INSPECTION SERVICE

Under the law, two members of the force are assigned to the duty of enforcing the provisions of the act of Congress known as the child labor law, and during the year 494 inspections were made of places where it was alleged children were being employed.

BOARD OF SURGEONS

The board of surgeons report that during the year 1,634 members of the force were on sick leave, and there were 2,739 visits of members to the clinic, and 730 house visits were made by members of the board. In addition, the board of surgeons treated 138 members of the park police and 42 members of the White House police force.

CHIEF (ALSO PROPERTY) CLERK

The chief clerk exercises general supervision over the clerical work of the department, and as property clerk is charged with the care and safe-keeping of all lost, stolen, and abandoned property coming into the possession of the police, as well as the effects of the insane and persons dying in the District of Columbia without relatives or friends. During the year property to an estimated value of \$2,659,740 was handled in this office. Notwithstanding the great increase in the volume of work the records of the office are in good condition and thoroughly up to date.

SALARY INCREASE

At the last session of Congress legislation was enacted increasing the compensation paid members of the force to such an extent as to place them on a par with respect to salaries with many of the larger cities of the United States, legislation which was much needed, and the passage of which has already had a tendency to improve the morale of the force.

This legislation also carried a provision granting to all members of the force one day off in each week of seven days in lieu of Sunday, with the proviso that the commissioners could in case of emergency suspend the granting of such leave pending the continuance of such emergency. To put into effect this provision of law would require the service of 165 additional men, and this number was included in the deficiency bill, which failed of passage in the last hours of the Congress. The commissioners were therefore obliged to declare an emergency until such time as the numerical strength of the force was increased as recommended.

It was hoped and believed that the passage of the salary legislation referred to would not only have the effect of improving the morale of the force, but that it would also attract a sufficient number of men of high caliber to keep the ranks continually filled and to place on the eligible list a number sufficient to permit of the immediate appointment of the additional 165 privates as soon as the deficiency bill is enacted into law. Recruiting has been slow and while the force is at present up to its full authorized strength, great difficulty is being experienced in placing on the eligible list

the number essential for the carrying out of this provision of the law.

IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS

It has been the constant aim of the administration to improve the working condition of the men and at the same time increase the efficiency of the service rendered the public. Notable among the orders issued with this object in view was one under which the system of station clerks and patrol service men working 12 and 14 hours out of every 24 were relieved from such necessity and placed upon a straight 8-hour schedule.

Another departure was the order eliminating the "swing section" or "platoon" and instituting a straight three-platoon system under which the men worked three separate tricks of duty of eight hours each, changing each Sunday. Plans are going forward for the elimination of reserve duty performed by the men in addition to their regular tours of street duty and for the establishment of central reserve units, the members of which will be drawn from the regular patrol force, performing certain of their tours of duty as a reserve instead of being part of the active patrol force.

ADDITIONAL PRECINCTS

The rapidity with which heretofore large unsettled areas are being built up has made it incumbent upon the department to outline a plan for the immediate and future development of the police service to such an extent as will meet the conditions resulting therefrom.

In order to properly police the territory comprised in the jurisdiction steps should be taken to acquire three sites for the erection of new station houses and the establishment of additional precincts. The first one of these to be considered is that in the vicinity of Colorado and Georgia Avenues NW., which would be the headquarters of the proposed thirteenth precinct and would comprise the territory lying north of Buchanan Street and between Rock Creek on the west and Riggs Road on the east. This territory is a part of the tenth police precinct, has a population of approximately 130,000, an acreage of 3,696, and an area in square miles of 5.775.

Next in order of importance is the purchase of a site in Benning for the erection of the fourteenth precinct station, which would comprise the territory east of the Eastern Branch and the Potomac River and north of Pennsylvania Avenue SE., all of which is now a part of the eleventh precinct, the largest precinct in point of acreage and mileage in the police jurisdiction, covering, as it does, 11,292 acres, with an area of approximately $17\frac{2}{3}$ square miles, with a population widely scattered.

The necessity for the establishment of a precinct in Tenleytown, which comprises the territory west of Rock Creek and north of Massachusetts Avenue, all of which is now a part of the seventh precinct, with an acreage of 9,459, and approximately $14\frac{3}{4}$ square miles, is most vital.

Some years ago it was found necessary to erect in Tenleytown a substation and to permanently assign a portion of the seventh pre-

inct command to such substation for the patrol of a part of this territory; and in the projected development it will not be necessary to purchase a new site, nor would it be necessary to erect a new station, as the present building will answer all requirements for some years to come; but it will be necessary to provide a captain for the command of this precinct and additional men for the patrol force, as it is rapidly being built up and the vast stretches of territory which a few years ago were nothing but dense woods or vacant open spaces are now being rapidly improved and populated.

NEEDED LEGISLATION

DANCE HALLS

Section 7 of the act of Congress approved July 1, 1902, should be repealed and specific authority should be given the commissioners to enact regulations relative to the licensing of businesses, trades, and professions and to enact necessary regulations for the conduct of such businesses, trades, and professions. The reason is obvious, as conditions have materially changed since the enactment of the act referred to and as action of the courts in many cases has had the effect of practically nullifying the effect of the law.

FUGITIVE LAW

There should be enacted a fugitive law which would permit the authorities to hold for a reasonable period fugitives who come within the jurisdiction after notification of the authorities from another jurisdiction that the person wanted and detained has committed a crime.

DEADLY AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS

For many years this department has recommended the enactment of adequate weapon legislation. There is pending now before the Congress a bill known as the Capper bill, which if enacted will place into the hands of the authorities adequate means through the use of which may be brought about a material reduction in the number of crimes of violence, and a speedy enactment of this legislation is urged.

ADDITIONAL COURT JUDGES

Provision should be made for two additional judges of the police court. The law creating the police court and providing for two judges to sit therein was enacted many years ago when the total number of cases brought before such court was approximately one-fifth the number brought before the court at the present time, notwithstanding which fact there has been no increase in the number of judges.

DRUG ADDICTION

Legislation should be enacted making drug addiction in the District of Columbia a felony, such legislation to provide that any

person found guilty of being a drug addict shall be subjected to a penalty of not less than one year or more than five years in the workhouse, to the end that they may receive medical treatment in an effort to cure them of the habit. Such action would enforce regularity of habits and outdoor exercise, which, in addition to other standard treatment for drug addiction would in most cases have the effect of restoring such unfortunates both mentally and physically to such an extent that after their release they would be able to withstand temptation and might become useful members of society.

In the past much difficulty has been experienced in procuring evidence necessary for prosecution against persons illegally trafficking in narcotic drugs, which, it is believed, is due to the heavy penalties imposed by the courts on persons convicted of such an offense. The dealer in narcotic drugs is becoming more secretive and cautious, never making a sale to anyone not well known or recommended by someone thoroughly trusted by him. Recoveries of drugs from dealers and users have been smaller than at any time in the past five years. They are finding it more difficult each year to get their supplies. Drug addicts are always in fear of a shortage and frequently are compelled to go for days without the drug, a condition which has resulted in a considerable number of such unfortunates applying for and receiving treatment at Gallinger Hospital, which is well equipped for this purpose; but such treatment is entirely voluntary on their part, and it is believed that the enactment of a law making drug addiction an offense wherein it would be merely necessary to establish the fact that a person is an addict and providing the penalty outlined such treatment could be made compulsory, and the resulting benefits would indeed be great.

CHIROPRACTORS AND OSTEOPATHS

Recommendation is again urged that legislation be enacted regulating the licensing of chiropractors and osteopaths and other practitioners of this type in order that the public may be safeguarded against persons not qualified to render professional service.

THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM

Traffic continues to present a problem of ever-increasing importance in this as in other urban communities. The natural increase in the number of automobiles using the highways of the city each year very naturally makes for increased congestion and adds materially to the difficulties encountered in attempting to regulate its movement.

Parking facilities do not exist and can not be made to exist to the extent necessary to accommodate even a small portion of the automobiles whose drivers seek such facilities. The commissioners have in view, however, a comprehensive program of widening various streets in the congested section of the city. Some of the streets are: Sixth Street between Louisiana and Massachusetts Avenues NW., Tenth Street between F Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW., Eleventh Street between G Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW.,

Twelfth Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to E Street NW., and Fifteenth Street between H and I Streets NW.

It is recommended that legislation be enacted establishing a traffic court, the function of which should be the trial of traffic cases exclusively and such legislation should also provide against forfeiture of collateral, to the end that all persons arrested on charge of violation of any of the traffic regulations be given a hearing in open court.

It is also recommended that legislation be enacted making it obligatory upon the court to impose a jail sentence on conviction of any person on the charge of operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor.

It is the consensus of opinion of all students of traffic conditions, however, that the first and most urgent need with respect to increased efficiency in the handling of traffic is a material increase in the number of policemen assigned to the special duty of directing and controlling traffic. There are at least 45 intersections in the District of Columbia which are points of traffic congestion, where, because of a limited force it is impossible to assign policemen. The Senate Committee on the District of Columbia in a report on "Traffic Conditions in the District of Columbia," after careful investigation expressed the opinion that there should be at least 200 additional traffic officers.

THE SMOKE SCREEN

The police department, in its efforts to stamp out the illicit sale and use of liquor, has been confronted with many obstacles, but none more dastardly and difficult of control than the deadly smoke screen, which is a device frequently used in recent months by drivers of automobiles transporting liquor in violation of law. A tank is attached to the machine containing oil or gas producing substances which may or may not be poisonous in nature. This tank is connected with the exhaust and when the driver finds that he is being pursued by a police officer he can by means of a valve connection throw out a dense and impenetrable cloud of smoke or poisonous or blinding gas. The commissioners have recently enacted a regulation providing a heavy fine for any person convicted of using such a device for the purpose of eluding pursuit or defeating capture, but it is not believed that this will have the desired effect.

It is believed that legislation should be enacted making it a felony punishable by not less than two years in the penitentiary for any operator of an automobile to have such a device attached thereto.

HEAVIER PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF LIQUOR LAWS

The attitude of the department in enforcing the liquor laws is evidenced by the comprehensive figures given in another part of this report, but efforts fail of complete fulfillment because of the inadequacy of the penalties provided by law and because of the delays experienced in the courts in bringing offenders to trial after they are arrested.

The sale of liquor is not an offense which is committed on the spur of the moment, where there might be offered the defense of lack of knowledge of the law or lack of forethought in complying with its

provisions. On the contrary, it is generally a carefully planned and successfully executed violation of a law the existence of which is known to all men.

The experience of this department brings the conclusion that the imposition of a small fine in cases of this character does not act as a deterrent, and therefore the penalty clause with relation to the illegal sale of liquor should be amended so as to provide a jail sentence of at least 60 days for the first offense, without fine, with proportionate heavy increase in the period of imprisonment for each subsequent offense.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE LOSS

The report of the chief engineer of the fire department shows that during the year 2,670 alarms of fire were received, a decrease of 122 from the number received during the fiscal year 1923. Of the alarms received, 278 were false, this number being 68 more than the number received during the preceding year. Convictions were obtained in several cases.

The total fire loss during the year is estimated at \$1,021,431, a decrease of \$1,052,665 from the amount of the loss during the fiscal year 1923. This decrease of more than 50 per cent in the annual fire loss is, of course, gratifying to the commissioners and the fire department.

FIRE PREVENTION

This important work of the department is still being vigorously pursued, and without question the decrease in the fire loss is due to a great extent to this activity. The usual inspectional work and supervision over the storage and sale of highly inflammable materials was maintained.

The committee of citizens appointed by the commissioners to provide for a proper observance of fire prevention week again functioned in a most efficient manner and its members are to be highly congratulated for the manner in which they brought the subject of fire prevention to the attention of the District's population.

During the year the commissioners found it necessary to remove seven members of the fire department for serious infractions of the rules and regulations. Less drastic disciplinary action was administered in 142 cases.

POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND

Nine members of the department were retired during the year and granted pensions. Six widows of deceased firemen or pensioners were also granted relief.

DEATHS

During the year the department lost one of its active members, Private J. G. Kinsinger. The death of the following pensioners also occurred: W. A. Clark, W. W. Virts, James Frazier, T. P. Purcell, Conrad Weitzel, C. W. Buhler, and Mary Holohan.

HORSES

On July 1, 1923, the department had on hand 67 horses. During the year 2 died, 2 were sold, and 4 were condemned and transferred to other District departments. Comparatively few of these horses are maintained by the department, the great majority being used by other District activities and maintained by them subject to the call of the fire department in case of emergency caused by the failure of motor apparatus through accident, necessity for over-hauling, and repairs, etc.

TRAINING SCHOOL

Since 1911, when the fire department drill tower, by reason of its dilapidated condition, was razed, no proper facilities have been available for the training of firemen in the work they must perform upon the fire ground. The District of Columbia is far behind most cities in this regard, and it is hoped that it will be possible in the not far distant future to obtain funds for the erection of such a building.

APPARATUS

The department at the present time has no companies in service with horse-drawn apparatus. However, the need for additional motor apparatus is still present. Christie tractor-drawn apparatus, in active service, as well as the older pieces of motor apparatus, are in bad condition, unreliable, and should be replaced at an early date. As has been previously stated in reports of the commissioners, it has been found necessary to limit the speed of the Christie tractor-drawn steam fire engines to 12 miles per hour, and this limitation renders this apparatus practically useless so far as its initial work on the fire ground is concerned. The purchase of additional modern motor apparatus is a vital necessity.

SALARIES

The act of Congress approved May 27, 1924, granted increases in salary to all officers and members of the fire department, and also provided that, in lieu of Sunday, one day off in seven be granted to each said officer and member. It has, however, been impossible to place the latter provision of the law in effect owing to the fact the deficiency bill which carried the appropriations for the additional men necessary failed of passage at the last session of Congress. It is hoped that provision for these men will be made soon after Congress convenes in December. The increased salaries are now in effect, and the commissioners feel that the legislation referred to accomplished the result of averting a deplorable situation, which would have arisen had the employees effected suffered the loss of the so-called bonus and received no increase in statutory pay to balance the same.

HEALTH OFFICER

POPULATION

The estimated population of the District of Columbia for the year 1923, as recorded by the United States Bureau of the Census, is 475,966, the whites numbering 359,569 and the colored 116,397.

VITAL STATISTICS

Deaths.—The total number of deaths recorded during the calendar year 1923 was 7,105, an increase over the preceding year of 800. The general death rate rose from 13.89 in the year 1922 to 14.93 in the year just closed. This marked increase in mortality was due principally to the large number of deaths from pneumonia and la grippe which occurred during the winter months of last year.

In view of the large number of deaths recorded each year from pneumonia, and the fact that certain forms of the disease at least appear to be communicable, the advisability of recommending to the commissioners the promulgation of regulations requiring the reporting and isolation of all cases of this disease is now being carefully considered by the health department. The total number of deaths from pneumonia during the calendar year 1923 was 1,015.

Of the total number of 7,105 deaths, 4,449 were white and 2,656 colored, the white rate being 12.37 and the colored 22.82.

The principal causes of death during the year, arranged in the order of relative influence on the death rate, were pneumonia, organic heart disease, cerebral hemorrhage, Bright's disease, pulmonary tuberculosis, and malignant growths.

Births.—The total number of births recorded during the calendar year 1923 was somewhat less than in the preceding year, there being 9,121 recorded in 1922 and 9,029 in the year just closed, the general birth rate for the year 1923 being approximately 19 for each 1,000 of population. The total white births numbered 6,413 and the colored 2,616.

Infant mortality.—For every 1,000 babies born during the calendar year, 91.3 died during the first year of life, the white rate being 70.5 and the colored 142.2. These figures showed a marked increase in the death rate of infants under 1 year of age. It is believed this increase can be accounted for in part by the smaller number of births reported during the year just closed.

Rabies.—Rabies is on the increase in the District. The number of dogs found to be suffering from rabies as well as the number of persons bitten by dogs during the year increased. Thirty-nine dogs were found to be rabid, and 24 persons were bitten by dogs that were shown by port-mortem findings to be rabid at the time the biting was done.

The commissioners on June 12, 1923, issued a proclamation covering the period from July 1 to September 30, 1923, requiring the muzzling of all dogs running at large.

BUREAU OF PREVENTABLE DISEASES

The contagious-disease service handled, during the calendar year 1924, 4,157 cases of measles, 1,267 of tuberculosis, 1,140 of chickenpox, 1,095 of whooping cough, 935 of diphtheria, 853 of scarlet fever, 195 of typhoid fever, 66 of smallpox, 40 infantile paralysis, 8 epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis, and 5 cases of pellagra, making a total of 9,759 cases.

Smallpox.—This disease prevailed to an unusual extent during the last fiscal year. A total of 207 cases were recorded. The disease was fortunately of a mild type and no fatalities occurred. The

smallpox hospital was in active operation 304 days during the fiscal year, and during that time 181 patients were treated. The total number of patient-days service rendered was 1,673; the average stay of each patient in the hospital was 5.5 days.

Quarantine station.—This institution was in active operation 205 days during the fiscal year, 139 inmates were cared for, and the total number of inmate-days service rendered was 774. The average stay of each inmate was six days.

Leper hospital.—No cases of leprosy were found in the District during the year. The institution was, therefore, not in active operation at any time. The building is old and in need of repairs. These repairs will be made at an early date.

Ambulance service.—The total number of persons suffering from minor contagious diseases removed in the general contagious disease ambulance was 492.

Diphtheria.—During the year 565 cases of diphtheria, with 42 deaths from that disease, were recorded. The work of applying the "Schick" test has been continued during the year, and practically all of the inmates of the various children's institutions have now been immunized against diphtheria. In addition to the work done in institutions, approximately 2,000 children attending the public schools have also been immunized. This work among the school children will be continued during the coming school term.

Typhoid fever.—This disease seems to be gradually disappearing from the District. One hundred and thirteen cases with 27 deaths were recorded during the calendar year 1923 as against 188 with 23 deaths during the preceding year. Investigation to determine the origin of these cases definitely showed that 37 were contracted outside of the District of Columbia and in 22 other cases the disease was probably contracted outside of the District.

With a view to preventing the spread of typhoid in this District, clinics are maintained by the health department where typhoid vaccine is administered, without charge, to persons desiring the same.

Scarlet fever.—Scarlet fever prevailed to a much greater extent than usual. Nine hundred and eighty-eight cases were recorded with 11 deaths. This outbreak had, however, practically subsided before the close of the fiscal year.

Isolation wards.—Attention is again called to the urgent need for the erection of an isolation building for the care and treatment of persons suffering from minor contagious diseases. The only institutions to which patients suffering from minor contagious diseases can now be sent for treatment is the isolation buildings at Garfield Memorial Hospital and the isolation building at Providence Hospital. Under present arrangements, indigent persons treated at either of the above-mentioned institutions are paid for by the District under terms of contracts made with each hospital from year to year. The isolation buildings at Garfield Hospital in their present condition are far from satisfactory for the care of patients sent there for treatment. The buildings are badly in need of repairs and are without modern conveniences and equipment for an institution of this kind.

The need for a hospital owned and operated by the District is most urgent.

Disinfecting service.—One thousand eight hundred and twelve premises were disinfected during the fiscal year and 1,108 articles exposed to infection were disinfected at the disinfection station.

Public crematorium.—Five hundred and thirty bodies were cremated during the fiscal year—87 adults, 147 infants, and 296 still-born babies. Seventy-three private cremations were done during the year, for which fees amounting to \$1,521 were collected.

Bacteriological laboratory.—The total number of specimens of all kinds examined during the fiscal year were 22,417. More samples of water were collected and examined than in any previous year, and close watch has been kept of the public water supply.

Bathing pools.—All public bathing pools in the District have been closely supervised during the year. Samples of water from these places have been collected at frequent intervals and submitted to bacteriological examination.

Serological laboratory.—During the year 4,100 specimens of blood for the Wassermann reaction, 570 for the Widal reaction, 1,095 smears for gonococcus, and 66 for malaria were examined.

Wells and water supplies.—Samples of water from public and private wells to the number of 1,288 were examined. Close supervision has also been kept over the water supply furnished by common carriers for drinking purposes.

Chemical laboratory.—Nine thousand eight hundred and eighteen samples of all kinds were examined as follows: Drugs 43, foods 9,536, water 147, air 62, for police department 15, coroner 11, and 4 miscellaneous.

Milk and cream.—The bill to regulate the sale of milk in the District of Columbia passed the Senate with certain amendments a few days before the recess of Congress. It is hoped the measure will be enacted.

Dispensaries—Tuberculosis division.—Nine hundred and forty new patients were admitted to the clinic during the fiscal year. The total number of visits made by all patients to the clinic was 6,536. One thousand and two X-ray pictures were made. The clinic nurses made 4,685 visits to the homes of patients.

Veneral-disease division.—During the fiscal year 1,834 new patients were admitted. The total number of visits made by all patients during the year was 12,525. The nurses made 559 visits to homes of patients. Three thousand five hundred and forty-seven salvarsan injections were given. Of the total number of new patients admitted, 67 were 5 years of age or under and 260 between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

During the year a number of lectures and moving-picture exhibits were given before public gatherings of various kinds.

The bill for the control of venereal diseases in the District of Columbia passed the House of Representatives a few days before the recess of Congress. It now awaits action by the Senate.

Medical and dental inspection of public schools.—A detailed report covering the operations of the medical and dental inspection service, including the work performed by school nurses, is embodied in the report of the Board of Education. During the school year the inspectors made 7,112 visits to school buildings and 198 visits to homes of certain pupils. Seven thousand two hundred and sixty-five pupils

were found to have some physical defect and appropriate treatment recommended. In 1,338 cases exclusion from school was recommended. One hundred and ten pupils were examined mentally and physically to determine the advisability of segregation in special schools; 68 per cent were recommended for transfer to special classes.

During the year 1,494 pupils in the kindergarten and first grades were given a thorough physical examination. Of these, 85.8 per cent were found to have some physical defect.

Twenty-one nutrition classes, 10 white and 11 colored, were conducted under the general supervision of the medical inspection force. The nutrition workers were supplied by the domestic-science departments in the white schools, the physical-training departments in the colored schools and by the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in both white and colored schools.

Dental inspection.—Four dental clinics were, as heretofore, operated during the year. Three thousand six hundred and sixty-four pupils were given treatment. The total number of examinations made by the dental-inspection force during the year was 18,704.

School nurses.—Eight thousand two hundred and sixty-nine pupils having some physical defect were handled by the school nurses. The present force of medical, dental, and nursing services is entirely too small to properly care for the health of the children in our schools. Heretofore the school work has been confined to the public schools. There are, however, a large number of private schools located throughout the District having a large attendance of pupils. It is believed that private schools of all kinds should be under the same supervision as the public schools are at present.

Bureau of food inspection.—The food inspectors made a total of 104,335 inspections during the fiscal year. Three thousand three hundred and ninety-two food producing and vending establishments were registered at the close of the year. One thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dairy farms with cattle to the number of 31,066 producing milk for the District of Columbia were also registered at the close of the year.

Slaughterhouses.—During the year 5,500 cattle, 3,339 sheep, 3,198 calves, and 26,965 hogs were inspected at the various slaughterhouses throughout the District.

Bureau of sanitary inspection.—Eight thousand two hundred and twenty-eight complaints were received and acted upon during the fiscal year. These complaints necessitated the making of 13,125 inspection visits.

The total number of visits of all kinds made by the sanitary inspection force was 65,824.

Six hundred and sixty-nine notices were served upon nonresident owners of property under the assessment system for the abatement of nuisances. In all but 36 cases the nuisances were abated by the owners; in these cases the work was done by the District and the cost assessed against the property.

Weed law.—During the year 1,381 notices were served on owners of lots to cut and remove weeds therefrom.

Smoke inspection.—Ten thousand and seventy-six observations were made during the year. One hundred and forty-four cases were referred to corporation counsel for prosecution in the police court

for violation of the smoke law. Fines and forfeitures amounted to \$1,040.

Eight hour female labor law.—Two thousand and sixty-two establishments coming within the purview of this law were registered at the close of the fiscal year. In 14 instances violation of the law was noted and prosecution instituted against the proprietors.

Child hygiene service.—On July 1, 1923, the health department took over a large part of the work formerly done by the Child Welfare Society. Five welfare stations were operated during the year as follows: Georgetown University Hospital, 330 C Street N.W., 1235 Four-and-a-half Street S.W., 1130 K Street S.E., and 900 Maryland Avenue N.E.

During the fiscal year the total number of visits to welfare stations was 14,846, and the nurses made 12,934 visits to the homes of children.

On January 4, 1924, the commissioners issued certain regulations for the government of day nurseries and homes for children under 15 years of age. These regulations became effective February 4, 1924, and since that date 134 applications for permits to maintain such institutions have been received. Eighty-three were favorably acted upon and 15 unfavorably. Thirty-six applications were pending at the close of the fiscal year. It is believed that the promulgation of these regulations fills a long-felt need.

Pound service.—During the fiscal year 2,697 dogs were captured running at large and 1,097 other dogs were surrendered by their owners. In addition to these, 48 horses, 3 mules, 3 goats, and 2 cows were also impounded. One thousand eight hundred and sixty-one cats were also surrendered to the poundmaster for destruction. The total number of animals of all kinds handled was 5,701.

Bureau of administration.—Ten thousand one hundred and forty letters and 6,269 oral complaints were received during the year. Thirteen thousand three hundred and thirty-two letters were sent out by the department and 2,184 special reports were entered and filed.

Bureau of vital statistics.—Nine thousand one hundred and thirty-three births, 501 stillbirths, and 6,399 deaths were recorded during the fiscal year. Two thousand two hundred and fifteen transcripts from the records of deaths and births were issued.

BOARD OF CHARITIES

The report of the Board of Charities reviews the work of all the penal, charitable, and correctional institutions, calling attention especially to developments at the workhouse and reformatory, the Gallinger Municipal Hospital, and the Home and School for the Feeble Minded.

The work of construction of the reformatory buildings has been continued actively during the year. Twelve buildings are now under roof and four others in process of construction. The rebuilding of the workhouse has been commenced. The temporary wooden buildings which have been used since 1910 are to be replaced by brick buildings of a permanent character, and the first of these buildings is now under construction.

The first complete year's experience since the opening of the new psychopathic wards at the Gallinger Municipal Hospital brings striking evidence of the need for this department of the hospital. The number of patients handled at the psychopathic wards increased from 1,091 in 1923 to 2,401 in 1924.

By authority of special legislation enacted last year a restudy of the plans for the Gallinger Municipal Hospital (other than the psychopathic department) was made by an expert on hospital construction and the municipal architect is now ready to proceed with the erection of the buildings as soon as appropriations are available. The Board of Charities urges the early construction of these buildings to replace the old wooden structures which have been in use for more than one-half a century.

Legislative authority was obtained last winter for the treatment of pay patients at the psychopathic wards of the Gallinger Hospital and also in the Tuberculosis Hospital. The board believes that this provision will meet the needs of a very worthy class of persons who are willing to pay to the extent of their ability but unable to pay the charges of private hospitals.

The nurses' home authorized for Tuberculosis Hospital has been completed and will soon be occupied.

The plans have been completed for the new Home and School for the Feeble Minded and the buildings will shortly be advertised for contract. Meantime under the authority granted by Congress last winter a superintendent of the institution has been appointed and is now at work planning erection of temporary buildings for the reception of children pending the construction of the permanent buildings which will not be ready for use until about the close of the present fiscal year.

Charitable and correctional institutions have already felt the benefit of the substantial increases in compensation allowed under the personnel classification act to the poorly paid employees, and the standard of service has been distinctly improved. A better grade of help is being secured and changes are less frequent. The force is not only more efficient but more stable.

The important work of the care of dependent children under the Board of Children's Guardians has been carried on effectively throughout the year, as set forth in the report of that board.

No notable change by way of increase or decrease occurred in the population of charitable, penal, and correctional institutions. No unusual or abnormal conditions are indicated.

BOARD OF CHILDREN'S GUARDIANS

Since its organization by act of Congress, July 26, 1892, the Board of Children's Guardians has cared for 5,206 wards during minority, 3,790 for temporary periods. Four hundred and eighty-seven feeble-minded children have been provided for and trained toward self-support. The board has investigated 15,185 complaints involving more than 30,000 children alleged to be in need of public protection and care.

During the past year 755 complaints and applications, involving 1,439 children, have been investigated. Court action was found necessary in only 88 cases, involving 148 children. Every effort is

made to keep children in their own homes, and resort to court action is had only in cases where child's welfare demands it. Of the total 755 cases investigated, 456 were adjusted by our own workers, 153 referred after investigation to private organizations, and 58 were pending at close of year.

Care was given during the year to 2,047 children; 404 new commitments were made to our guardianship. Every effort has been made to give closer supervision to our wards and to provide for each the type of care most needed. The policy of the board is to provide selected, supervised, foster-home care for all wards adjustable to family life.

Two thousand three hundred medical examinations of our children have been made, 60 major operations performed, dental work has been completed on 269 children, orthopedic treatment given to 10 children, and X-ray treatment for ringworm of scalp given to 10 wards. Fifty-six cases have been under treatment for venereal disease and 34 for tuberculosis.

An entire administrative reorganization has been accomplished.

The board favors the new legislation for creation of a department of public welfare. It recommends the sale of the Industrial Home School, the equipment of a modern temporary receiving home, and the erection of a small modern institution for the care of white delinquent children. A public mental clinic is also needed.

ALIENIST

Under the direction of the alienist, 2,401 cases were examined and treated in the psychopathic department of Gallinger Hospital during the year, which was an increase of 1,310 cases over the number of such subjects during the preceding year.

At St. Elizabeths Hospital 629 such cases were examined prior to their appearance in court, which was a decrease of 226 cases compared with the preceding year, due to the larger number of cases having been cured or otherwise managed.

The alienist appeared in court 39 days during the year for the trial of lunacy cases, and altogether examined 1,088 cases more than during 1923.

VETERINARY SURGEON

There was no unusual amount of sickness and injuries generally in the animals owned by the District of Columbia during the year. Those reported or found sick have been treated either at their stable or at the city refuse hospital stable. Three hundred and fifty hogs were treated as a preventive against hog cholera. Twenty-one horses were examined and purchased for the various departments. Forty-two horses were transferred from one department to another where their services were more suitable or needed. Two horses were destroyed to prevent suffering, as they were of no value and incurable. Thirteen horses died of natural causes. Sixty-nine horses and mules which were of no further use to the District of Columbia were sold.

There were on hand in the veterinary department 535 mules and horses, whose general condition is good.

THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

The board held a meeting on June 23, 1924, at which meeting applicants applied for licenses to practice veterinary medicine in the District of Columbia.

Receipts and disbursements

Balance June 30, 1923	\$108. 67
Fees from applicants for license to practice	50. 00
Total	158. 67
Expenses (no distribution to members)	97. 84
Balance in bank	60. 83

CORONER

The coroner states that during the fiscal year embraced in this report he made investigations to determine the cause of death as follows: Natural causes, 1,118; accidental, 271; suicides, 82; homicides, 64, a total of 1,535. Autopsies performed, 233; inquests held, 165.

Expenses

Electric light	\$26. 14
Fuel	149. 21
Printing and supplies for morgue	57. 00
Repairs to morgue	100. 00
Ice	102. 96
Laundry	10. 27
Supplies	13. 61
Upkeep of automobile truck	159. 87
Autopsies	1, 610. 00
Witness fees	610. 00
Jurors' fees	2, 358. 00
Taking testimony	655. 00
Total	5, 852. 06

BOARD OF PHARMACY

During the year eight regular and one special meeting were held for the conduct of business. Four regular examinations were held, and as the results thereof license to practice pharmacy in the District of Columbia was granted to 30 applicants. Twenty-six applications were received for license to practice pharmacy through virtue of reciprocity with other States; all received favorable consideration.

The register shows the following outstanding licenses:

Series A	542
Series B	191
Series C	453
Total	1, 186

Four permits were renewed for the sale of poisons for use in the arts, and as insecticides one original permit was issued for the same.

The treasurer's books as audited show the following:

Balance on hand at last audit	\$802 18
Total receipts for licenses, and for permits to sell poisons	1, 061. 50
	1, 863. 68

Disbursements:

Amount distributed to each member of the board, as per commissioners' order-----	\$790. 00
Supplies, postage, stationery, printing-----	147. 05
Treasurer's bond-----	5. 00
Secretary for clerical services-----	250. 00
Dues national association, annual-----	25. 00
Refund of fees-----	40. 00
Expense of delegates to convention-----	50. 00
Checks out-----	7. 50
Checks outstanding paid-----	3. 00
	1,317. 55
Balance cash on hand and in bank-----	546. 13

BOARD OF MEDICAL SUPERVISORS

During the year the board of medical supervisors examined 125 applicants for license to practice medicine in the District of Columbia, 58 of whom were passed, 9 failed, 6 rejected, 5 withdrawn, and 47 under consideration.

Receipts and disbursements

Balance on hand July 1, 1923, as shown by bank book and cashbook of the secretary and treasurer-----	\$1,302. 11
Total receipts during the fiscal year; as shown by cashbook verified, being fees received from applicants-----	2,777. 18
Outstanding check-----	110. 00
	4,189. 29

Total disbursements during the fiscal year, as verified by canceled checks returned by the bank and by receipted bills in the invoice book-----	1,860. 00
Balance on hand June 30, 1924, as shown by bank book of the District National Bank, including outstanding check for \$110-----	2,329. 20
	4,189. 29

Of the unobligated balance of \$2,219.20, shown above, the following distributions for services were made:

Secretary-treasurer-----	\$600. 00
Members of the board of medical supervisors-----	1,000. 00
Members of the board of medical examiners-----	400. 00
	2,000. 00

leaving an unobligated balance of \$219.20 in the hands of the treasurer of the board.

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

The law of Congress, approved June 6, 1892, and acts amendatory thereof, which created the board of dental examiners in the District of Columbia, and prescribed its duties, was amended during the Sixty-eighth Congress by an act approved June 7, 1924.

The board created by the first-mentioned statute held its last examinations on January 7 to 11, 1924, when 21 candidates applied, 9 of whom passed, 7 were conditioned and 5 failed.

That board received in fees-----	\$245. 00
Its administration expenses were-----	67. 65

Leaving a balance of----- 177. 35

which was distributed equally among the members of the board.

The board was reorganized on July 2, 1924, under the act of June 7, 1924, and held an examination during that month, when 39 applicants appeared, 23 of whom passed, 7 were conditioned and 9 failed.

The new board received in fees.....	\$944. 75
Its administrative expenses were.....	\$156. 60
Examiner's fees preparing, examining, grading, and attending meetings, 7 days each.....	350. 00
Pay of secretary, 3 days.....	30. 00
Pay of assistant to the secretary, 9 days.....	53. 00
Total expenses.....	589. 60
Balance in treasury.....	355. 15

The act of June 7, 1924, authorizes the Board of Dental examiners to license oral hygienists. Under that law seven applicants have been licensed as such.

THE NURSES' EXAMINING BOARD

The nurses' examining board held 10 meetings during the year and 2 examinations for the registration of nurses. One hundred and sixty nurses took the examination. Of this number, 131 passed and 29 failed. Three nurses were registered through reciprocity. The majority of the training schools have been much improved, and a notable betterment has resulted, as appears in the recent examinations which the nurses have taken. The greater number of schools have their full quota of pupils.

The financial report is as follows:

Receipts:	
Balance on hand.....	\$44. 46
Fees.....	682. 00
Interest.....	4. 56
Outstanding checks.....	12. 00
From Graduate Nurses Association.....	677. 50
Total.....	\$1, 420. 52
Expenditures:	
Fees refunded.....	\$30. 00
Stationery and printing.....	60. 20
Rent.....	60. 00
Engrossing of certificates.....	48. 85
Advertising examinations.....	5. 60
Supplies for examinations.....	41. 65
Back salaries.....	677. 50
Salaries for 1923 and 1924.....	400. 00
Total.....	1, 323. 85
Balance.....	96. 67

BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

The board of accountancy created by act of February 17, 1923, reports that during the fiscal year it held 16 meetings and considered 370 applications for certificates as certified public accountants, as follows:

For waiver certificates:		
Rejected	-----	140
Withdrawn before final action	-----	15
Approved	-----	47
Still unsettled	-----	1
		----- 203
For reciprocal certificates:		
Returned because of no treaties yet arranged	-----	77
Held until pending negotiations completed	-----	4
		----- 81
For examination:		
Admitted December, 1923	-----	31
Admitted June, 1924	-----	4
Rejected	-----	51
Readmitted for second examination (17) not counted	-----	--
		----- 86
Total	-----	370

The books of the board were audited by the auditor of the District of Columbia and showed an unobligated balance as of June 30, 1924, of \$706.90. This amount was distributed equally among the three members of the board as compensation for their services.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

The public employment bureau placed in suitable employment during the year 24,974 men and women. The work of the bureau was materially furthered by the cordial cooperation of the employers of labor in the District, and of the Director General of the United States Employment Service, Mr. Francis I. Jones, with the result that 944 more persons were thus aided than during the preceding fiscal year.

It has been the aim of this bureau to give special attention to ex-service men seeking employment in order to acquire education.

PUBLICATIONS

The following publications were issued by the health department during the past fiscal year:

Name of publication	Number printed	Cost of preparation	Cost of printing	Number distributed by mail, messenger, etc.	Cost of distribution
Annual report, 1923	500	Unable to estimate	\$1,020.00	About 200	\$1.62.
Weekly report	100	105 hours, annual, \$1,200; typist, \$50; 105 hours, annually, \$600; messenger, \$25; 26 reams paper, at 61 cents.	15.86	136 weekly	\$1.36 per week.
Monthly bulletin, grades of milk.	1,000	24 days per annum, \$1,400; inspector-clerk, \$93.33.	314.80	600 monthly	\$6 per month.

ROADWAY PAVEMENTS

The accompanying table shows the area in square yards of new roadway pavements laid and old roadway pavements resurfaced during the year, with the total in square yards and miles of the various kinds of pavements at the close of the fiscal year.

Comparative statement showing character and extent of roadway pavements

	Existing amount on June 30, 1923		New pave- ment laid during year (square yards)	Pavements replaced during year (square yards)	Existing amount on June 30, 1924	
	Square yards	Miles			Square yards	Miles
Sheet asphalt and coal tar.....	3, 443, 476	183. 36	-----	-----	3, 443, 476	183. 36
Asphalt blocks.....	612, 205	31. 11	-----	-----	612, 205	31. 11
Asphaltic surface.....	44, 996	3. 12	83, 043	-----	128, 039	9. 64
Durax blocks.....	17, 968	0. 57	-----	-----	17, 968	0. 57
Asphaltic or bituminous con- crete:						
On concrete base.....	78, 708	4. 58	-----	-----	78, 708	4. 58
On stone base.....	46, 206	2. 47	-----	1 7, 297	38, 909	2. 16
Cement concrete.....	304, 211	16. 35	151, 884	-----	456, 095	23. 91
Granite block and rubble.....	334, 605	18. 35	-----	2 16, 643	317, 962	17. 47
Vitrified block.....	17, 390	1. 04	-----	-----	17, 390	1. 04
Cobble.....	36, 374	1. 52	-----	-----	36, 374	1. 52
Macadam (estimated).....	1, 836, 226	117. 76	-----	2 66, 400 1 82, 728	1, 687, 098	108. 20
Gravel and unimproved (trav- eled).....	-----	156. 51	-----	-----	-----	160. 39
Gutters on asphalt streets.....	242, 917	-----	671	-----	243, 588	-----
Pavements maintained by street railways.....	568, 034	-----	48, 773	-----	616, 807	-----
Gutters on asphaltic concrete streets.....	10, 590	-----	-----	1 743	9, 847	-----
Total.....	7, 593, 906	536. 74	284, 371	173, 811	7, 704, 466	543. 95

¹ Cement concrete.² Asphaltic surface.

The sums appropriated for expenditures during the year under this head were as follows:

For repairing old roadway pavements, including asphalt resurfacing.....	\$550, 000
For paving new roadways.....	573, 300
For repair of suburban roads.....	275, 000
For grading streets, alleys, and roads.....	35, 000

The prices paid under contracts for roadway pavements during the year were as follows:

Laying sheet-asphalt pavement (2½-inch asphalt surface, 2-inch binder, before compression) with 6-inch concrete base:	
Class A—Natural pitch lake asphalt.....	\$2. 72
Class B—A reduced oil asphalt.....	2. 57
Laying vitrified block with 6-inch concrete base.....	4. 00
Laying 6-inch concrete roadway.....	1. 81
Laying 7-inch concrete roadway.....	2. 02

The unit cost of concrete roadway pavements was slightly less than for the preceding year. A number of main suburban roads were substantially improved by new roadway pavements, but the rapid development of suburban property was not adequately met by improvement of abutting streets.

Asphalt roadway pavements were resurfaced to an extent of a fraction only of their real needs, their deterioration being inadequately met by minor repairs. A considerable yardage of asphalt resurfacing (Bessonite) over heavily traveled macadam and a few granite block streets was laid with expectation of reduced upkeep cost in addition to improvement in the use of the streets by traffic.

Due to the increase in suburban development and garage construction the demand for alley pavements has increased until it is beyond our ability to respond. In a partial effort to meet it, sidewalk construction, which is chargeable to the same fund, has been unduly curtailed.

The repairing of cuts in pavements made by and charged to deposits of corporations and individuals aggregated over 60,000 items with a total area of over 80,000 square yards, costing about \$370,000 to repair.

At the end of the year all work of construction and maintenance of pavements that was provided for had been completed except a very few items intentionally retarded.

SUBURBAN STREETS AND ROADS

The work of repairs to suburban roads consisted principally of maintenance by patching with bituminous mixture and by surface treatment. The cost of the former was about \$35,000; 135,000 gallons of oil and tar were applied and about 700,000 square yards of surface was treated at about 5 cents per square yard, a substantial reduction resulting from the introduction of mixing and loading machinery. Large use was made of soft-coal cinders in addition to old street material and household ashes for surfacing the many newly opened streets. Over 21,000 cubic yards of cinders were so applied and excellent results obtained. Over 7 miles of such roadways were constructed.

MUNICIPAL ASPHALT PLANT

The District of Columbia has operated a portable municipal asphalt plant in the repair of asphalt pavements and bituminous macadam roadways for the past 13 years. During the year 1924 the plant was operated for a period of 239 days, with a total output of 206,060 cubic feet of material, or an average daily output of 862 cubic feet.

The details of the cost of the operation of the plant are contained in the report of the engineer of highways.

SIDEWALKS AND ALLEYS

The fund for paving alleys and sidewalks abutting private property amounted to \$285,000, and for sidewalks abutting Government property \$15,000. Cement concrete was used almost exclusively. The contract prices for sidewalks were considerably higher than in the recent past, being \$2.31 per square yard for those adjacent to paved and \$2.45 per square yard for those adjacent to unpaved roadways; the latter being significantly in more remote localities.

BRIDGES

The expenditure for construction and repair of bridges amounted to \$36,507.75, and the appropriations for the maintenance of the Anacostia and Highway Bridges were expended practically in full.

P Street Bridge across Rock Creek was refloored.

Livingston Road Bridge over Oxen Run and Minnesota Avenue Bridge between Hunt Place and Deane Avenue were rebuilt.

The superstructure of P Street Bridge across Rock Creek was extensively repaired.

The asphalt roadway of Bennings Road Bridge across the Eastern Branch was resurfaced.

ENGINEER STABLES

This activity rendered service at a substantial saving over the cost of hired teams. About 52 head of stock were maintained.

INSPECTION OF ASPHALTS AND CEMENTS

Through this office, tests, chemical and physical, are made of materials used in street and road improvements, likewise all cements used in building and in sewer construction, fuel oils used at the municipal asphalt plant, and miscellaneous tests of any materials requiring such. Tests made during the year were: Asphalt materials, 971; oils, 12; tars, 2; sand, 115; gravel, 142; stone, 57; limestone dust, 57; cements, 9,630; representing 96,306 barrels; and miscellaneous materials, 540; total, 11,526.

Samples of asphalt tested represent 1,625 tons, 961 tons used by contractors for laying roadways and 664 tons used at municipal asphalt plant in producing paving materials.

Of the material tested there were rejected 2,155 cubic yards of sand and 2,400 cubic yards of gravel.

SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

A division of the work of this office may be made into three classes, as follows:

1. Work performed for private parties, for which fees are charged according to a regular schedule of fees prescribed by the commissioners and estimates made by the surveyor's office.

2. Work performed for the various departments of the District and Federal Government. No fees are charged for this class of work.

3. Surveys, descriptions, and reports on condemnation cases for streets, alleys, parks, etc.

The work for the past fiscal year has, on an average, been about equal to that performed during the year previous, these two years showing an increase over the years preceding them.

HIGHWAY PLAN

The appropriation of \$2,000 for the purpose of marking on the ground the permanent system of highways for the District of Columbia has been used to good advantage, and many street lines have been marked at street intersections in connection with this work. Approximately 150 stone monuments were planted, and some of the prominent streets marked were: Central Avenue from Benning Road to Southern Avenue SE.; Fourteenth Street, through Walter Reed Hospital grounds; Belt Road from Chesapeake Street to Harrison Street NW.; Broad Branch Road from Rock Creek Park to the District line; and Canal Road at various points along its line.

This system of streets, known as the street-extension plan, is in accordance with a plan which was made many years ago under an act of Congress providing for the extension of streets in the District of Columbia in an orderly, comprehensive manner. This law is believed to have been one of the most important and advantageous for the proper development of real estate in a systematic manner into blocks and lots that has ever been placed upon the statute books.

The plan, which is known as "The highway plan," can not be changed or amended in any manner except upon approval of a highway commission composed of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, and all new subdivisions must conform to this plan.

SUBDIVISIONS

There has been the usual activity in subdivision work outside of the original city limits, and many subdivisions of large tracts of land have been recorded. In all these cases it is necessary to mark the corners of all blocks in the new subdivisions with substantial stone monuments, and fees collected for subdivisions include also the cost of survey work, making computations and plats, and setting corner stones.

CONDEMNATION CASES

During the past fiscal year there have been before the courts 36 condemnation cases for streets, parks, etc., and 12 alley cases. Of these 48 cases, 18 were confirmed by the court, some being dismissed and others carried over to the present fiscal year.

The total of damages awarded by the juries in the cases confirmed amounted to \$139,823.15 in all—\$118,020.69 for streets, parks, etc., and \$21,802.46 for alleys. These figures will show the magnitude of this condemnation work.

Some difficulty has been experienced in prosecuting condemnation cases to a conclusion on account of the jurors not being able to find benefits equal to the amount of damages and court costs, as required by law, and some provisions should be made whereby such cases can be successfully carried through the courts and the cases pushed to a conclusion.

PARKS

During the past year a commission, known as the National Capital Park Commission, was created by an act of Congress, whose function it is to go into the important question of parks and determine just what areas should be acquired for parks and to take the necessary steps for their acquisition.

The surveyor's office has recently recorded a large park area donated to the District by Mr. C. C. Glover, which is known as the Glover Parkway and Children's Playground. This park comprises a large area along Foundry Branch, on both sides of Arizona Avenue, between Massachusetts Avenue and Reservoir Street NW., containing in all approximately 77½ acres.

This is a valuable donation and constitutes quite an addition to the park system of the District, and the donor, Mr. Glover, is to be commended for the public spirited and generous motives which prompted the gift of this valuable area to the District.

A number of small park areas at street intersections were acquired by the District during the past year.

During the past year a movement was started to acquire the subdivision of Reno for park, school, playground, water, and street

purposes, the subdivision being ideally located for this purpose, being in the center of what is to be a great business and residential area.

This is a very old subdivision, made before the highway plan was adopted, and is out of harmony with this plan, being based on an irregular, ill-devised plan, making an objectionable subdivision. The only way it can be obliterated so that it can be developed in harmony with the surrounding territory would be to condemn the entire area, composed of about 52 acres.

Besides the advantages accruing from the elimination of this subdivision, there are other considerations which are of interest. It has an elevation of about 420 feet, and is the site of old Fort Reno, one of the old Civil War defenses, which would make it also a site of historical interest. The old fort could be restored within the park area.

Additional land is needed for the extension of a high service reservoir, and if this land is acquired it could be well utilized for this purpose. The public-school authorities also are anxious to establish a junior high school and athletic field here if it can be acquired.

A committee of prominent citizens has already indorsed this proposition.

TREES AND PARKING

The number of trees planted along the curbs on the streets in the District of Columbia at the close of the fiscal year was 104,294. One thousand and thirty-four young trees were planted in their permanent positions during the fiscal year, a net increase of 976 over the previous year.

The planting during the year had to be curtailed to some extent due to the fact that the trees in the nurseries were too small to be transplanted to the streets. The widening of Rhode Island Avenue NE. between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-eighth Streets, necessitated the change in the location of 43 elm trees on this thoroughfare.

For various reasons 1,552 trees were removed from public space during the year.

The cost of removing 1,165 trees was paid from the appropriation for the trees and parkings division, and it amounted to \$4,233.16.

The cost of removing the other trees was paid from the appropriations for other departments and whole cost deposits.

Trees to the number of 9,610 were sprayed for the extermination of leaf-eating insects.

The young trees in the Fort Dupont and Poplar Point nurseries are doing very well. These sites are well stocked with those varieties that are considered best for street planting. There were 1,045 red oak, 561 white oak, 570 Norway maple, 5 sycamore maple, 62 elm, and 26 sycamore trees transplanted from the seeds beds to the nursery rows at Fort Dupont nursery.

Transplantings at the Poplar Point nursery included 798 red oak, 213 elm, 184 poplar, 162 acacia, and 114 Norway maple.

Trees trimmed during the year numbered 10,884, at a cost of \$6,249.37.

The removal of weeds from the uninclosed parkings along the streets was undertaken at a cost of \$2,528.67, and \$177.09 was ex-

pended for the miscellaneous care of the small reservations under the control of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. Permits to the number of 1,005 were issued affecting the grade of the parking in connection with building operations in the residential districts during the year.

It is believed that the condition of the shade trees of Washington is, generally speaking, the best that can be expected when the adverse conditions attending their growth, health, and life are considered.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF CITY REFUSE

The amount of money turned into the Treasury from grease and salvaged material totaled \$302,642.54. Considering the market prices at which these products were forced to be sold, the total is very satisfactory and it constitutes a substantial sum toward the upkeep of the city.

The total expense of collecting and disposing of all the city refuse was \$821,155.35, so that the net cost of this work was \$518,512.81.

It is to be noted that the wage scale of laborers and mechanics was substantially increased in December of 1923, so that the unit cost of all work from December on was materially increased.

The garbage-disposal plant produced 3,607,600 pounds of grease from 75,089 tons of garbage collected, compared with a production in the previous year of 3,451,859 pounds from 80,014 tons. The expense of the reduction, including the freight charges on the raw garbage from the transfer station in Washington to the plant at Cherry Hill and capital expenditures for improvements to plant, was \$167,953.70, so that this plant virtually operated at a profit of \$28,665.71.

The trash plant cost to operate \$95,048.71. The excess of receipts over expenditures at this plant was \$6,692.87. Included in the expenditures is an item of \$9,000 for the purchase of 6 acres of land adjoining this plant.

By act of Congress the commissioners were prohibited from letting any further contract for the collection and disposal of dead animals after July 1, 1923. This work, involving the collection of 34,764 dead animals, was done by the District at a gross cost of \$6,886.81. Owing to a severe fire at the private rendering plant where these animals were disposed of, it was impossible to recover for sale the hides of 154 large animals which were buried at a great expense to the District and which materially increased the cost of this work.

The ashes from private residences were collected and disposed of at a cost of \$131,589.11. Much of this material was used with benefit as a temporary surfacing to newly opened streets and alleys.

The amount expended for dust prevention, cleaning of streets and alleys, and the removal of snow was \$392,185.86. It is to be noted that about 96,000,000 square yards more were cleaned by hand patrol during the course of the year than in the previous year. This means about 352,000 square yards more cleaned each day and is to be accounted for by reason of new pavement laid during the year.

BUILDING OPERATIONS

The estimated value of building operations during the year was \$39,403,207, a decrease of \$18,235,431 compared with the fiscal year

1923, which was \$57,638,638. This difference was due to the fact that 1923 was an abnormally active year, owing to the feverish rush to meet the demand for houses which had existed since before the end of the war. This extraordinary demand having been satisfied, operations during 1924 reflect the normal and stable status of the District, which may be expected to continue in the years to come, the volume gradually increasing in proportion to the augmentation in population.

The number of permits was 11,446, or 745 less than the previous year. Business buildings numbered 852, a decrease of 85. New buildings totaled 3,012, or 466 under 1923. The number of apartment houses was the same, 81, while the number of dwellings receded from 2,460 to 2,079, a difference of 381.

In 1923 there were issued 2,585 conforming certificates of occupancy under the zoning regulations as against 3,205 this year, an increase of 620 in 1924. Nonconforming certificates reached 543 in 1924; in 1923 the number was 118, a difference of 425. The fees for issuance of certificates amounted to \$5,600. In 1923, \$3,523.50 was realized, \$2,074.50 less than in 1924.

CONSTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

During the year 17 buildings were under construction, as follows: A four-room building to replace the Smothers School, which was completed September 24, 1923; an eight-room addition to the Lovejoy School, completed October 16, 1923; an eight-room addition to the Garrison School, completed November 30, 1923; the George Bancroft School, of eight rooms, completed August 11, 1924; the Langley Junior High School, completed January 4, 1924; the Macfarland Junior High School, completed January 4, 1924; police precinct station No. 12, completed October 23, 1923; police precinct station No. 7, completed October 29, 1923; police precinct station No. 9, completed October 29, 1923; a third-story addition to the Thomson School, completed January 17, 1924; an addition to the Armstrong Manual Training School, which will be completed about January 19, 1925; an addition to the Western High School, which will be completed about February 26, 1925; the Mount Pleasant Branch Library, which will be completed about February 18, 1925; a nurses' home at the tuberculosis hospital, completed September 25, 1924; a head house at the wharf leased by the Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co., to replace the building destroyed by fire, completed September 2, 1924; the Raymond School, of eight rooms, which will be completed about December 22, 1924; the Janney School, of eight rooms, which will be completed about May 22, 1925. Additions and alterations to engine house No. 16 were in progress.

Preliminary studies for the home for the feeble-minded have been made and a general program arranged.

Preliminary studies for the general layout of the Gallinger Municipal Hospital have been made, based on the advice of Doctor Goldwater. The scheme proposed retains the domestic building, for which the foundations were put in some time ago.

Besides the preparation of plans and specifications for the above-mentioned buildings, plans and specifications for about 50 other

pieces of work, such as heating systems in engine houses, police stations, and school buildings, and for equipment for various buildings, were prepared in this office, amounting to \$145,052. The contracts entered into by this office for the fiscal year amounted to a total of \$1,542,029.

REPAIRS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

All municipal buildings are kept in repair under the direction of the municipal architect. During the year only such repairs were made as would prevent further deterioration of the structures, as the continued high prices of labor and materials and the inadequacy of available funds prevented a more extensive undertaking in the repair work.

WORKHOUSE AND REFORMATORY

Good progress was made during the year in the construction work at the District workhouse and reformatory, consisting mainly in the erection of permanent buildings and the continuance of the construction of the industrial railroad. A considerable amount of repair work was performed at both institutions. At the reformatory 14 building operations were under way during the year, consisting of 5 shops, 4 dormitories, 2 disciplinary dormitories, 1 washhouse, 1 boiler house, and 1 dining hall and kitchen. The shops, 2 dormitories, the 2 disciplinary dormitories, and the boiler house were practically completed by June 30, 1924. The balance of this construction work will be completed within a few months. The steam-heating mains have been installed in part of the tunnel system, and heat has been turned on in three of the shops.

During the year a bridge was constructed over the main highway and about 4,600 feet of track laid for the industrial railroad. Work is progressing rapidly on the construction of this road, and before winter it should be possible to haul all necessary building material over it to the new reformatory site.

DISTRICT BUILDING

The District Building consumed 2,014 tons of coal, which averaged 10.37 per cent ash; ashes totaling 577 cubic yards were removed at a cost of \$288.50. The total number of kilowatt hours generated was 527,824; of this there was used for lighting 383,633; for elevators 45,110, and for motors 99,181. Repairs were made to the power plant at a total cost of \$3,048. It will probably be necessary within the present fiscal year to make additional repairs to the power plant at an approximate cost of \$4,000. In addition to minor repairs throughout the building the carpentry and paint shop built new partitions and counters, moved counters, refinished floors, painted walls in 33 rooms, the latter at a cost of \$2,277.71, and made alterations for the convenience of many departments. The photograph shop did blue printing and photography totaling \$3,456.67. Attention is again called to the congested condition of many of the departments and request that steps be taken to find office space outside the building for one or two departments to relieve this condition.

MUNICIPAL GARAGE

There were 40 automobiles maintained and kept in running order during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1924. The garage was kept open night and day for urgent and necessary transportation. All machines were washed and supplied with gasoline and oil by the night force, who also acted as watchmen. A mechanical and laboring force consisting of eight men made all necessary repairs and operated automobiles for the various departments which were without automobiles or drivers.

Operating cost for the maintenance of the 40 automobiles, including gasoline, oil, tires, labor, and miscellaneous supplies, amounted to \$17,895.61, or an average of \$447.48 for each car, or \$0.0574 per mile.

The cost of repair parts used in the cars was \$2,460.41, or an average of \$61.51 for each car, or \$0.0151 per mile.

Total mileage made by the automobiles amounted to 233,066 miles, or an average of 5,826.5 miles per car.

PLUMBING AND PLUMBING INSPECTION

The plumbing inspection division made 44,657 inspections during the year. About half of these were inspections of plumbing work in new buildings; about one-quarter were inspections of plumbing work in old buildings; and the balance inspections on account of complaints of insanitary plumbing, leaky roofs, and defective rain leaders. A large percentage of these complaint cases originated in other divisions of the District government.

During the year 22 warrants were obtained against unlicensed plumbers and others for violation of the plumbing regulations. These prosecutions netted a total in police-court fines of \$260. No case taken to court by the plumbing division was decided adversely.

The plumbing board held 24 meetings and examined 84 applicants, of whom 12 passed and were granted master plumber's license. At the close of the year there were 259 registered plumbers and 7 registered gas fitters.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE STATIONS

There were in operation throughout the year four convenience stations, open 18 hours daily, and during the year the attendants reported a total patronage for all stations of over 13,000,000. The cash receipts from use of pay compartments, etc., totaled \$7,791.99, this being about 35 per cent of the actual cost of the operation of the stations.

INSPECTION OF STEAM BOILERS

The number of steam boilers inspected by the inspector of steam boilers during the year was 450, including 36 belonging to the District of Columbia. Ten boilers were condemned as unfit for further use. The compensation of the inspector of steam boilers is paid from fees collected from private owners of boilers. The total amount of these reported by that official was \$2,250, and the expense of inspection \$310, leaving a net compensation of \$1,940 for the inspector.

EXAMINATION OF STEAM ENGINEERS

The board of examiners of steam engineers held 51 meetings and examined 199 applicants, of whom 107 were found competent and 92 incompetent.

STREET LIGHTING

There are 21,823 public lamps of all kinds in the avenues, streets, alleys, etc., under the jurisdiction of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. Of these 11,519 are gas and 10,304 electric; of the gas lamps 10,820 are single-burner mantle, 310 are double-burner mantle, and 389 are small flat flame, for designation purposes; of the electric 819 are magnetite arc, 9,253 are incandescent, ranging from 60 to 600 candlepower each (91 per cent of 60 and 100), and 232 are incandescent of about 10 candlepower, for "designation."

There was a net increase during the year of 567 lamps.

The increase in aggregate candlepower of the street-lighting system under the jurisdiction of the commissioners is from approximately 1,848,300 to approximately 1,929,900, about 4.4 per cent.

The lighting of Pennsylvania Avenue, Seventeenth Street NW. to Washington Circle, was improved by the addition of 20 arc lamps, and the vicinity of Fourteenth Street and Park Road by the addition of 6 of the same type; 75 250-candlepower lamps replaced 60 and 100 candlepower lamps on Rhode Island Avenue NE.; the net increase in incandescent lamps, upward of 300, was due to extension and improvement, largely in the suburban territory. The same is true of a net increase of upward of 200 gas lamps.

The street lighting as a whole is distinctly inadequate. A comprehensive plan of material improvement has been formulated, including the design of ornamental posts of greater height, to admit of the effective use of larger lighting units to produce much improved lighting at relatively less added cost. An application of the plan on small scale is about to be made.

The situation with respect to the several suits at law against certain railway companies for recovery of sums expended in maintaining lights adjacent to their respective rights of way remains essentially as stated in 1920 and succeeding reports, with accretion of sums claimed.

SIGNAL SYSTEMS—FIRE-ALARM TELEGRAPH, POLICE-PATROL SIGNAL, AND TELEPHONE SERVICE

There were 806 fire-alarm boxes in service at the end of the year, 690 on underground and 116 on overhead wires, a net increase of 24 over the preceding year; 2,670 box and local fire alarms (exclusive of "additional" alarms) were received and transmitted during the year, of which 278 were false alarms. The number of box circuits in commission was increased by 4, to 39, and redistribution made, further relieving overloaded circuits.

There were 489 police-patrol boxes in service at the end of the year, 390 on underground and 99 on overhead wires, a decrease of 1 compared with the preceding year; 2 were added, 3 discontinued, and 62 were changed as to station connection, by reason of the insti-

tution of twelfth precinct and incident change of boundaries of other precincts.

There were 1,625 telephones connected to the District system at the end of the year, and 28 in use as portable sets by fire and electrical departments, an increase of 75 in the year.

There were 2,692 cells of storage battery in service on fire-alarm, police-patrol, and local circuits at the end of the year, an increase of 518, due to increase in number of fire-alarm circuits.

There were in service in the composite signals system (fire-alarm, police, and telephone) on June 30, 1924, a grand total of 7,436 miles of conductor, of which 7,344 miles were underground and 92 miles overhead. Reserve capacity of cable is below requirement of demand and below safe emergency provision. Provision for expansion is again presented as an urgent requirement.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

The total number of permits issued for installation of wires and apparatus for electric light, heat, and power purposes, on private premises, not including plants of public service companies, during the year, was 9,495, representing approximately 16,868 kilowatts capacity of utilization equipment, compared with 9,791 permits representing 9,271 kilowatts in the preceding year. The total sum of fees paid for permits was \$16,264, compared with \$16,164. The annual increase of service to be rendered continues, and neither adequate nor satisfactory service can be rendered with the number of inspectors engaged.

Supervision was exercised over the erection, taking down, and moving of poles, and of the stringing of overhead wires, in streets and other public spaces. The total of recorded wire-supporting poles in the District at the end of the year was 23,056, a net increase of 1,097, compared with 1,054 and 912 in the next two preceding years, indicative of continuance of activity in suburban development. There has been an increase of 3 in the number of telephone poles in streets and avenues within the "prescribed area" of the act of Congress regulating the use of telephone wires.

MISCELLANEOUS

The electrical department has cooperated with the municipal architect and other District officers, consulting and counseling, preparing plans, specifications, and estimates, and supervising electrical work in municipal properties.

HARBOR FRONT

The actual water frontage of the District of Columbia devoted to commerce, with the exception of canals, is about 2 miles. The total available water front is 18 miles, of which about 8 miles is set aside for parks and for other purposes of the United States. The largest amount of wharf property under the control of the commissioners is along the Washington Channel.

The new harbor police station and dock, the dock of the fire boat, the District morgue, the municipal fish wharves and market.

and the District workhouse and sand wharves are located on the Washington Channel between N and Thirteenth Streets. The balance of the frontage is leased by steamboat companies, boathouses, lumber dealers, etc.

A fire occurred at the wharf of the Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. in January, 1924, damaging the wharf property to the extent of about \$56,000. The wharf has since been rebuilt. Steel sheds have been erected in place of the wooden structures, a one-story head house of semifiireproof material has been erected, and the decking of the wharf has been surfaced with a layer of asphalt on metal lathe. With these precautions, it is hoped that there will be no repetition of the disastrous fires which have occurred at this wharf.

The permanent development and improvement of the water front along the Washington Channel between Washington Barracks and Fourteenth Street SW. is a matter which should be given very serious consideration.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE-DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

The construction and maintenance of the sewerage system and the sewage-disposal system of the District of Columbia is placed under a division in charge of the sanitary engineer.

The length of main and pipe sewers constructed during the year was 15.25 miles. The total length of main and pipe sewers on June 30, 1924, was 791.23 miles, of which 156.04 miles are main sewers and 635.19 miles are pipe sewers. In addition to the above new sewer work, 101 storm-water catch basins were constructed during the year, bringing the total number to 5,984.

There was expended during the year on new extensions of the sewerage system the sum of \$630,062.01, and on the sewage-disposal system \$40,000. The total cost of the sewerage system to June 30, 1924, was \$16,432,298.47, and of the sewage-disposal system to the same date was \$6,015,232.96, making a total cost of the complete system to June 30, 1924, of \$22,447,531.43.

The main sewerage pumping station and the three substations were in continuous operation throughout the year handling the sewage of practically the entire District. In addition, the main station pumped storm water from the 900-acre low-level area flanking Pennsylvania Avenue between the Peace Monument and Fifteenth Street. At the main station the combined pumpage of sewage and storm water amounted to 25,238,327.500 gallons during the year. The Poplar Point substation pumped 739,918,571 gallons, the Rock Creek substation 448,596,000 gallons, and Woodridge substation 18,820,757 gallons of sewage during the year. Eliminating the Rock Creek and Woodridge substations, which deliver their discharge to the main station, the above would indicate a mean daily pumpage of 71,173,277 gallons. The coal consumption at the main station during the year was 4,013.36 tons, of which about 8 per cent should be charged off to cover bunker loss, use by incinerator, and other miscellaneous uses.

On June 3, 1924, an agreement was formally entered into between the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission as to a reciprocal provision for the connection of the sewerage systems in the State of Maryland bordering the District of Columbia and those of the District of Columbia.

This agreement was in accordance with act of Congress approved September 1, 1916. No sewage connections to or from Maryland have as yet been made under this agreement.

Under the 1919 District appropriation bill there was appropriated the sum of \$60,000 for the purchase or condemnation of the necessary land for a sewage-treatment works. The site selected for these works is a portion of the Bellevue tract in the vicinity of the Home for the Aged and Infirm. During the fiscal year 1919, 34.6 acres of land was acquired, and after long court delays there was finally consummated during the fiscal year 1924 the purchase of two additional parcels of land aggregating 33.18 acres. The sum paid for these two latter tracts was \$29,147.52. It is felt that continued efforts should be made to acquire the 10-acre parcel 253/2, as well as reach an agreement with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to have them relocate their trackage now traversing District property recently acquired for these sewage-treatment purposes. The time can not be far distant when some preliminary treatment must be given the sewage of Washington, rather than discharge it, as at present, in its raw state into the Potomac River.

As the result of a more liberal appropriation, the division was better able to meet the demand for service sewers than during the year 1923, although the demand for this class of sewers is still considerably greater than the available appropriations will permit constructing. At the close of 1924 the service sewers ordered and not built amounted to \$115,304. The appropriations made available for interceptors of the sewage-disposal system are, it is felt, still decidedly inadequate.

There has been prepared in the office of the sanitary engineer a tentative five-year construction program, with the view of striving to bring the sewerage system of the District to date by June 30, 1929. Under this program there would be required an annual construction appropriation during the next four years of approximately \$1,800,000. In comparison with these needs, it might be mentioned that the construction appropriations for the fiscal year 1925 are but \$805,000. The above-estimated needs for sewer construction are in addition to any sums which might be required in this period for a sewage-treatment plant.

WATER MAINS

During the year 75.611 feet, or 14.30 miles, of water mains were laid, a decrease of 1.6 miles over length laid last year, making the total length of mains now in service 688 miles, at an aggregate cost of \$5,117,239.61, paid from water department funds.

WATER CONSUMPTION

The mean daily consumption for the fiscal year was 64,069,344 gallons, giving a mean daily per capita consumption of 131.57 gallons, estimated on a population of 487,000.

The total pumpage for the year was 12,300,606,110 gallons.

The total coal burned was 8,187 tons.

The cost of operating pumps for the year was \$123,878.31, as against \$115,748.16 for fiscal year 1923; thus making the cost of

pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water into the mains \$10.01, as against \$9.58 for the preceding year, due to the increased cost of labor.

Underground leakage found and stopped during the fiscal year aggregated a saving of 88,230 gallons daily.

The financial statement of water revenues and expenditures will be found in the report of the auditor.

WATER METERS

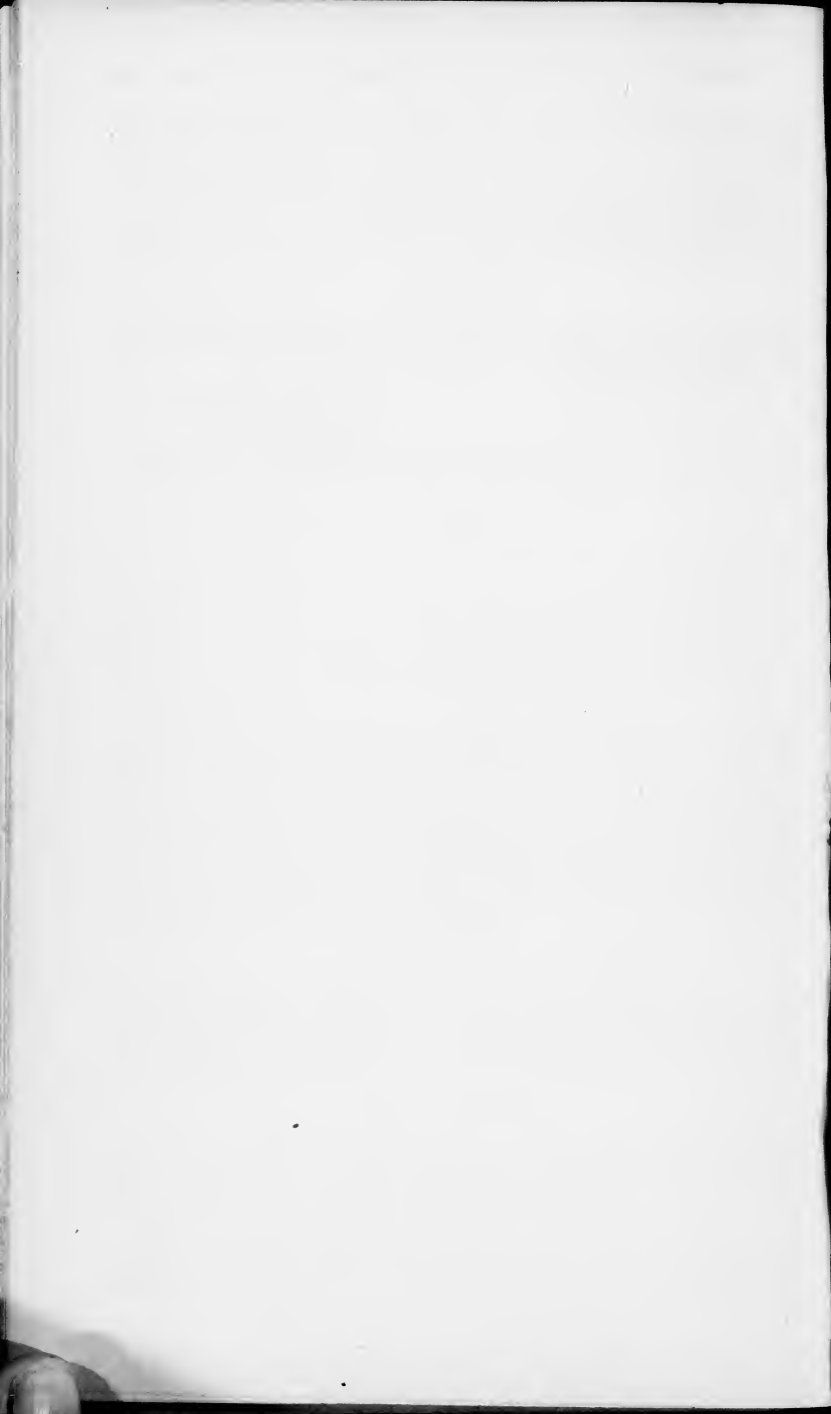
During the year 2,653 new meters were installed, and 70,181, or 87.41 per cent of the total, water services are now metered.

Very respectfully,

CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
JAMES F. OYSTER,
J. F. BELL,

Commissioners of the District of Columbia.





REPORT OF THE BOARD
OF CHARITIES OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WITH REPORTS OF CHARITABLE AND
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
AND AGENCIES * * * * * 1924

